

METRO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022



Gifts of love: Kate receives flowers from well-wishers at gates SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE

'Don't cry... you'll start me off'

Words of comfort:
Prince and Princess of Wales read tributes to the Queen outside Sandringham yesterday

JAMES SHAW/REX

WILLIAM REVEALS EMOTIONAL TOLL OF THE QUEEN'S DEATH

by JOEL TAYLOR

PRINCE WILLIAM has told how walking behind his grandmother's coffin brought back painful childhood memories of his own mother's funeral.

The Prince of Wales – just 15 when he and 12-year-old brother Harry followed Diana's body from Kensington Palace to Westminster Abbey 25 years ago – also told a well-wisher on the verge of tears: 'Don't cry now, you'll start me off.'

As William and wife Kate, the Princess of Wales, met crowds and read tributes at the gates of the Queen's Norfolk home, Sandringham House, he said: 'The walk yesterday was challenging and

Continued on Page 5 »

iPhone 14 Pro



Representative Example	Duration of Agreement	Upfront Cost	Monthly Device Payment	Credit Amount	Total Amount Payable	Interest Rate	Representative APR	Device Cash Price	Airtime Plan until March 2023	Airtime Plan April 2023 – March 2024	Airtime Plan April 2024 – March 2025
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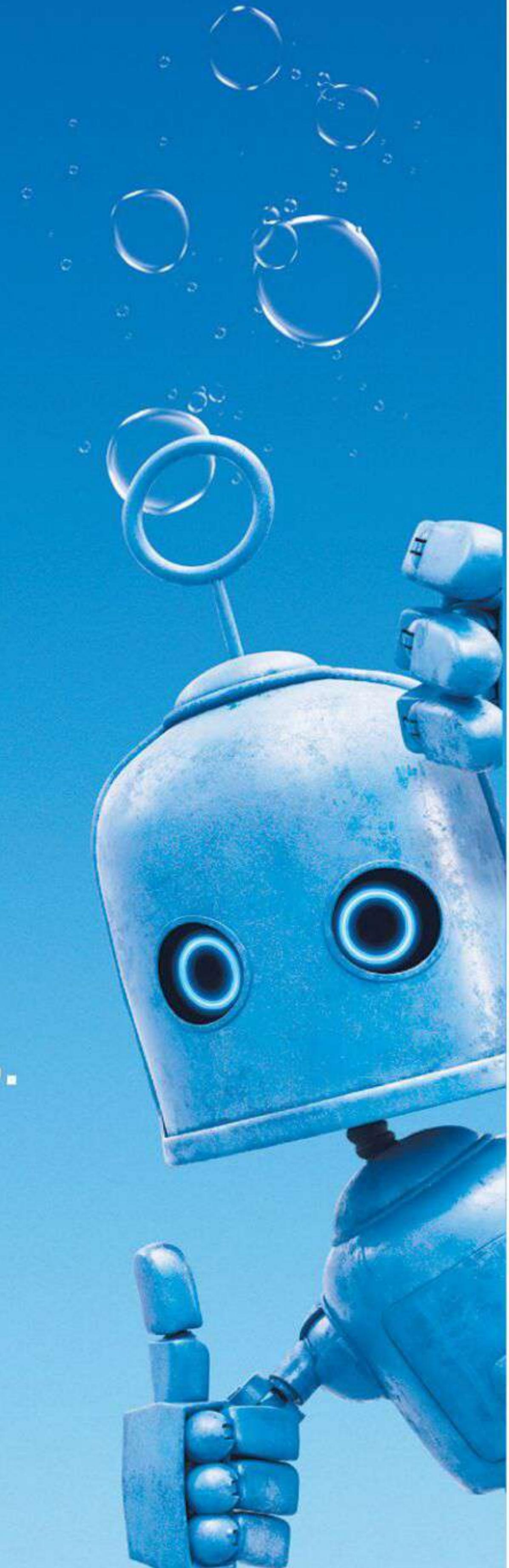
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1926-2022  Elizabeth II

Support: The Princess of Wales touches Elizabeth, who shed tears of joy EPA

Emotional date with Kate for schoolgirl

A GIRL shed tears of happiness after the Princess of Wales invited her to pay her tribute to the Queen.

Eight-year-old Elizabeth Sulkovska was asked to accompany Kate to place a corgi teddy and a bouquet of flowers among the tributes at the late monarch's estate in Sandringham, Norfolk.

Elizabeth said later she felt 'very happy' to be chosen.

Headteacher Gregory Hill, who was with seven-to-nine-

year-olds from Howard Junior School in King's Lynn, said: 'Elizabeth was overwhelmed. She cried with joy at being chosen. It's just a wonderful, amazing opportunity.'

Mr Hill, whose students also made a Paddington Bear tribute for the Queen, said: 'Young children that haven't experienced the Queen for long on the throne are still greatly moved by her passing, and really want to do their best to celebrate her life and legacy.'



Special day: Students meet Prince William GETTY

HOLDING BACK THE TEARS

YOU THINK YOU'RE PREPARED BUT YOU'RE NOT, PRINCE SAYS OF LOSING HIS GRANDMA

» Continued from Page 1

brought back a few memories. It's kind of one of these moments where you think to yourself, I have prepared myself for this but I'm not that prepared. It's a weird kind of thing, because we knew she was 96.'

Receptionist Jane Wells, 54, of Long Sutton, Lincolnshire, said: 'I said how proud his mother would have been of him, and he said how hard it was because it brought back memories of his mother's funeral.'

Caroline Barwick-Walters, 66, of Neath, said: 'He told us how difficult it was yesterday, how it brought back memories of walking behind his mother's coffin.' When she thanked him for 'sharing your grief with the nation' he replied: 'She was everybody's grandmother.'

Fran Morgan, 62, said Kate told her 'she couldn't believe how many cards and flowers there were', adding: 'She also said, "I can't read them all or I'd cry".'

Rachel Murdoch, 21, said Kate told her Prince George, nine, understood the loss of his great-grandmother but Princess Charlotte, seven, and Prince Louis, four, less so.

In Manchester, Sophie, Countess of Wessex, twice hugged a young mourner called Josh, who has nonverbal autism.

Mum Sue explained: 'She just said, "Nice to meet you, do you want me to take your flowers?"' As Josh reached out, they hugged. She returned for another embrace before leaving.

Princess Anne returned to Scotland, where she had accompanied her mother's coffin from Balmoral to Edinburgh following her death last Thursday aged 96.

In Glasgow, she received a bunch of pink



Bear hug: Sophie, Countess of Wessex, gives Josh a hug in Manchester SHUTTERSTOCK

daisies from four-year-old Holly McBride. As Anne took the flowers to add to tributes to her mother, Holly told her: 'They're for you.' Anne, clearly touched, took the flowers and thanked her, to the crowd's delight.

King Charles had a day of contemplation at home in Highgrove, Gloucestershire, after an intense week of public duties.

As well as touring the UK, on Tuesday the 73-year-old walked with his mother's coffin along Edinburgh's Royal Mile. On Wednesday, he walked behind a gun carriage carrying her from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall for the lying-in-state.

He was accompanied on both occasions by his sons, who have spoken of lasting trauma from their mother's funeral in 1997.

William has said walking behind her coffin 'one of the hardest things I've ever done'. Harry said: 'I don't think any child should be asked to do that, under any circumstances.'

Quiet reflection: William and Kate view flowers left at Sandringham
SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE



Posy for a princess: Anne in Glasgow with Holly McBride, four SHUTTERSTOCK

CHARLES: KING WHO'S BEEN 73 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Metro profile:
Pages 25-27 »



Elizabeth II  1926-2022

The Queen's children to stand vigil one last time



Run-through: Pallbearers rehearse with a stand-in coffin early yesterday
DANNY LAWSON/JANE BARLOW/PA

KING CHARLES III is to mount a final vigil at his mother's coffin tonight, ahead of her funeral on Monday.

The new monarch will join his three siblings to pay their respects, ahead of the historic occasion, by standing guard for 15 minutes in Westminster Hall from 7.30pm.

The King, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex stood vigil earlier this week at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh.

Officials announced the final details for the funeral yesterday, as tens of thousands of mourners queued for more than four miles along the banks of the Thames to witness the lying-in-state.

The day will begin at 8am with the doors of Westminster Abbey opening to the 2,000 members of the congregation, followed by the removal of the Queen's coffin from nearby Westminster Hall at 10.44am.

The funeral procession will then travel the short distance to the Abbey for the service to begin at 11am. The ceremony will last for about an hour, with a national two-minute silence at the end.

Among those attending will be almost 200 key workers and volunteers who were recognised in the Queen's most recent birthday honours in June. These are likely to include NHS staff who cared for the public during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The service, conducted by the Dean of Westminster, will also include religious readings from prime minister Liz Truss and secretary-general of the Commonwealth Patricia Scotland, while the Archbishops of York and Westminster will say prayers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will

by DANIEL BINNS

give the commendation, while the dean will pronounce the blessing.

There will then be another procession to Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner before the coffin is put into the state hearse and driven to Windsor Castle.

After a final procession along the Long Walk to the castle, a committal service will be held at St George's Chapel at 4pm, attended by 800 guests including members of the Queen's Household and Windsor estate staff.

The day will conclude at 7.30pm with a private burial service, conducted by the Dean of Windsor, for the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in King George VI's Memorial Chapel, which is located in St George's Chapel.

Prince Philip's coffin has been held in the chapel's vault since his death in April last year, so the couple can be laid to rest together.

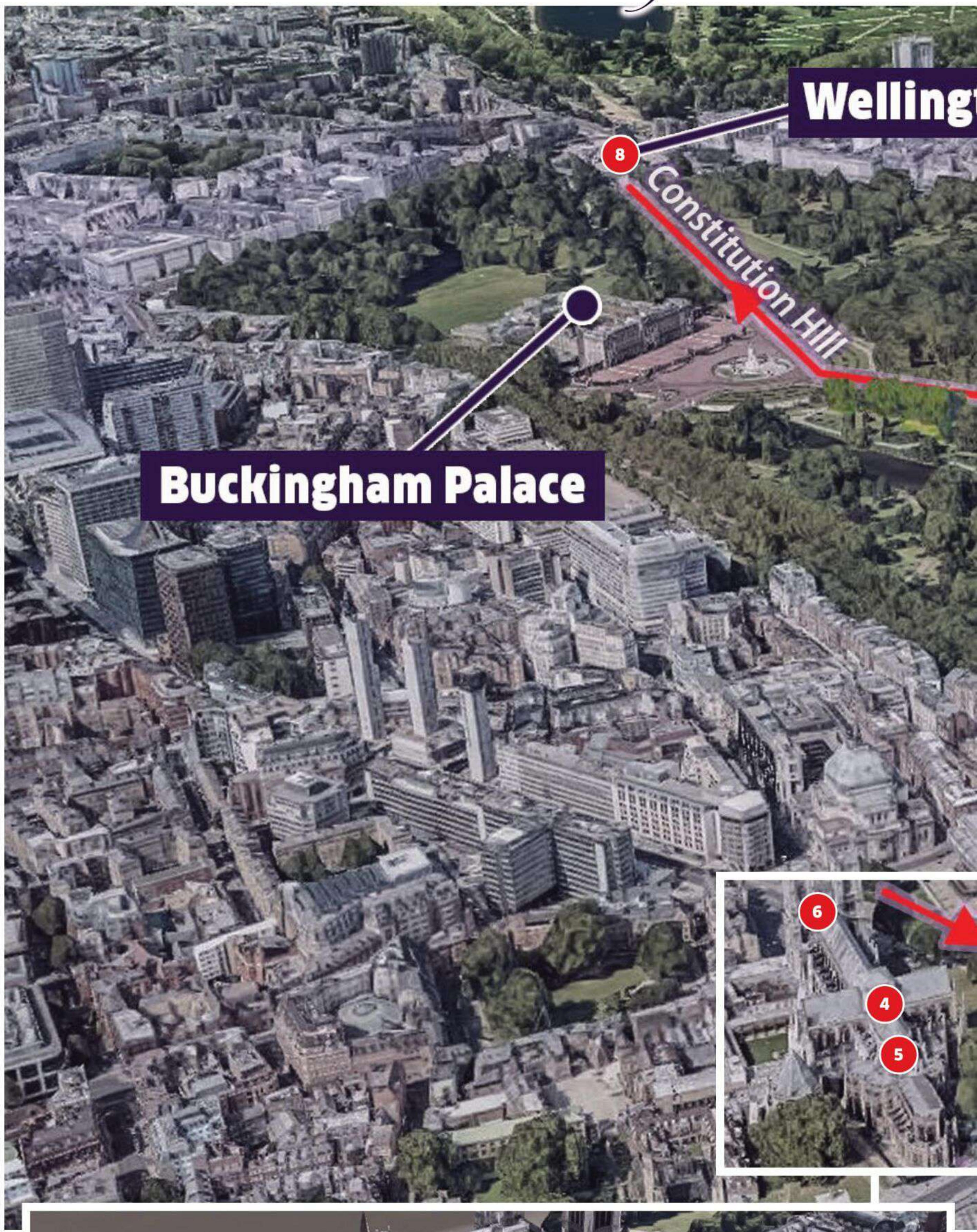
Thousands of people are expected to line the streets of Westminster, west London and Windsor, while the global TV audience is expected to be in the hundreds of millions.

Schools and businesses are expected to close for the day, while Heathrow airport has cancelled more than 100 flights on Monday to 'avoid noise' during the funeral.

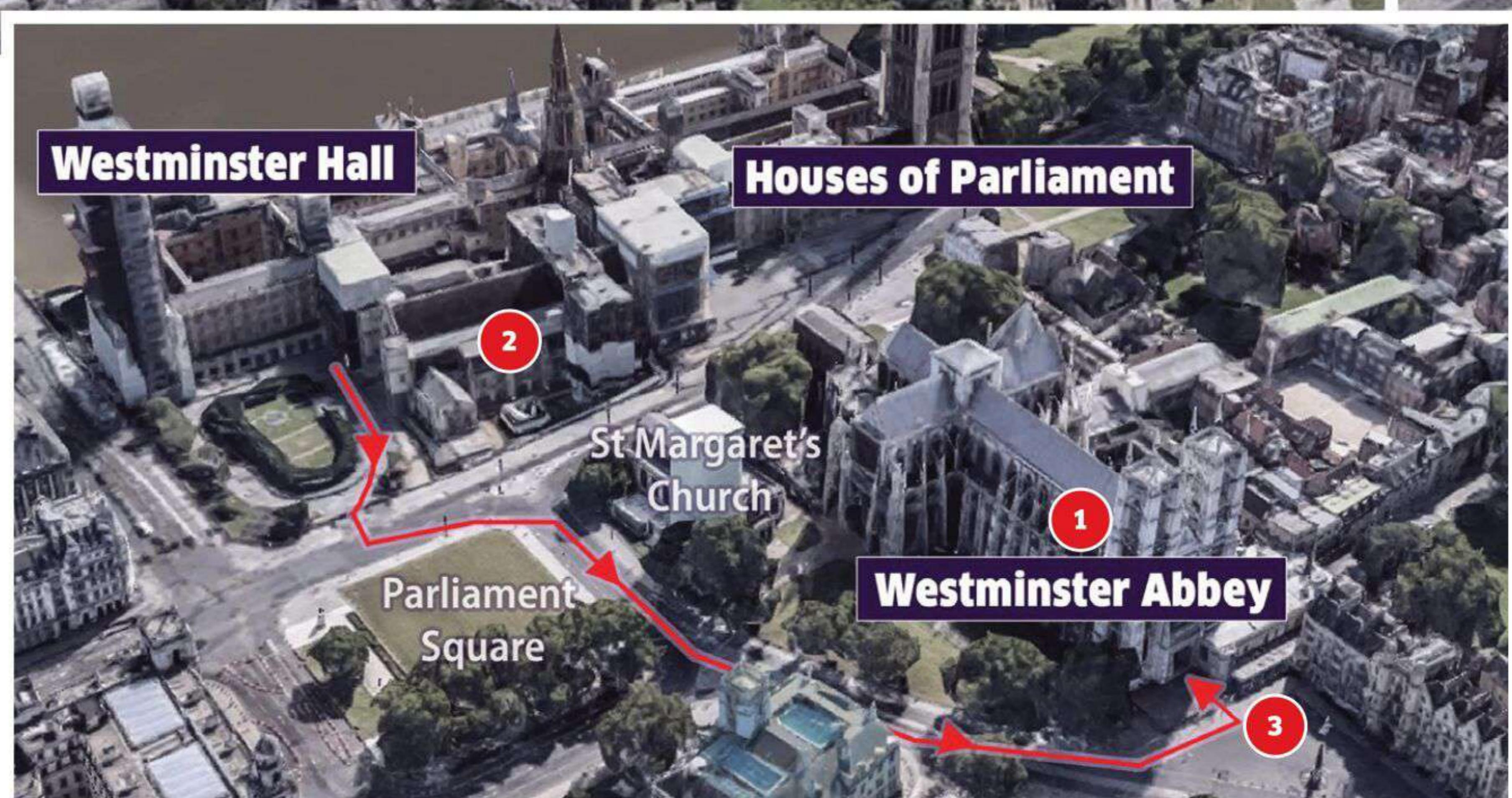
The Duke of Norfolk, who also holds the title of Earl Marshal and is responsible for organising the enormous event, said he hoped it would 'unite people across the globe'.

He added: 'The respect, admiration and affection in which the Queen was held makes our task both humbling and daunting.'

The Queen's state funeral:



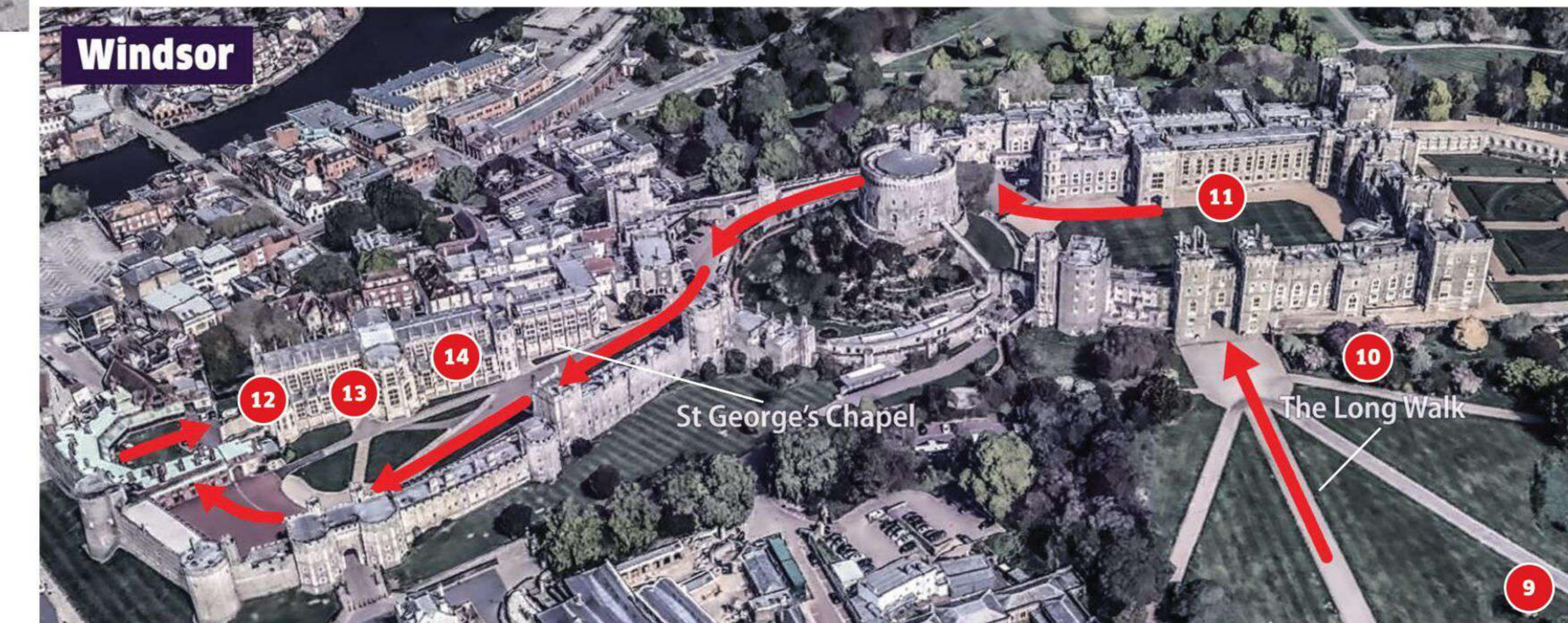
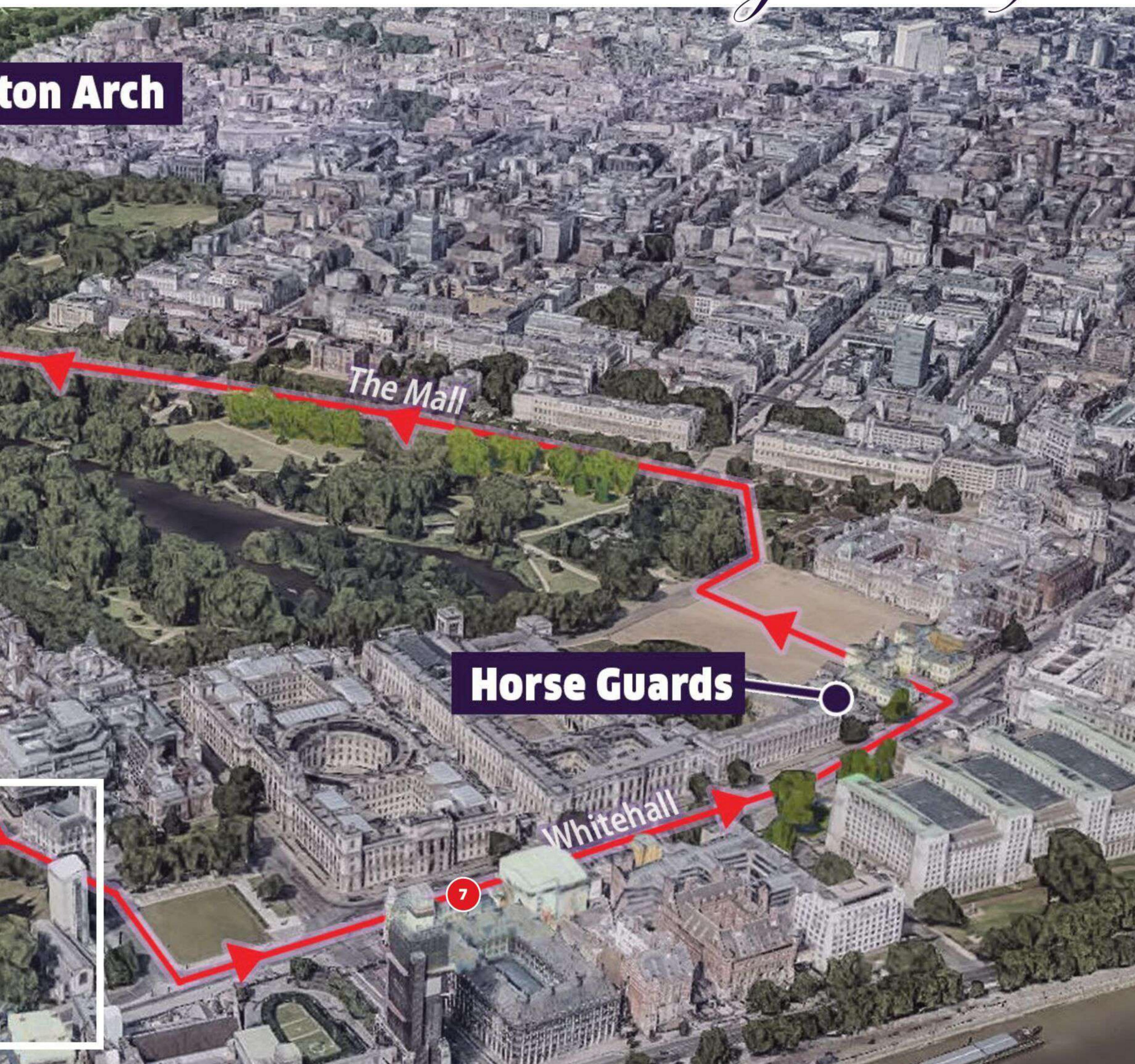
On guard: Charles on Monday



1926-2022  Elizabeth II

How the momentous day will unfold

ton Arch



MONDAY AT A GLANCE

- 1 **8am:** The doors of Westminster Abbey will open for the 2,000 members of the congregation to begin taking their seats. Most dignitaries will gather at the Royal Hospital Chelsea and be transported from there.
- 2 **10.44am:** King Charles III will lead his family in marching behind the Queen's coffin as it is moved from Westminster Hall the short distance to Westminster Abbey for the funeral service.
- 3 **10.52am:** The procession will arrive at the west gate of Westminster Abbey.
- 4 **11am:** The service, conducted by the Dean of Westminster, will begin.
- 5 **11.55am:** The Last Post will sound, followed by two minutes of silence to be observed in the Abbey and throughout the UK.
- 6 **12pm:** The service will come to an end.
- 7 **12.15pm:** A walking procession of the coffin, followed by the King and his family, will begin its journey to Wellington Arch.
- 8 **1pm:** At Wellington Arch, the royal family will watch as the Queen's coffin is transferred to the new state hearse, which will then be driven to Windsor Castle.
- 9 **3.06pm:** The hearse is expected to arrive at Shaw Farm Gate on Albert Road, Windsor.
- 10 **3.10PM:** A walking procession up the Long Walk to Windsor Castle will take place, with the route lined with members of the armed forces.
- 11 **3:40pm:** The King and senior members of the royal family are expected to join the cortège at the Quadrangle in Windsor Castle.
- 12 **3.53pm:** The procession will halt at the bottom of the West Steps of St George's Chapel in Horseshoe Cloister.
- 13 **4pm:** The Queen's committal service will take place at St George's Chapel, which is in the castle's grounds.
- 14 **7.30pm:** The Queen will be buried with the Duke of Edinburgh in King George VI memorial chapel, which is located inside St George's Chapel, in a private service. Her marble slab will be engraved ELIZABETH II 1926-2022.

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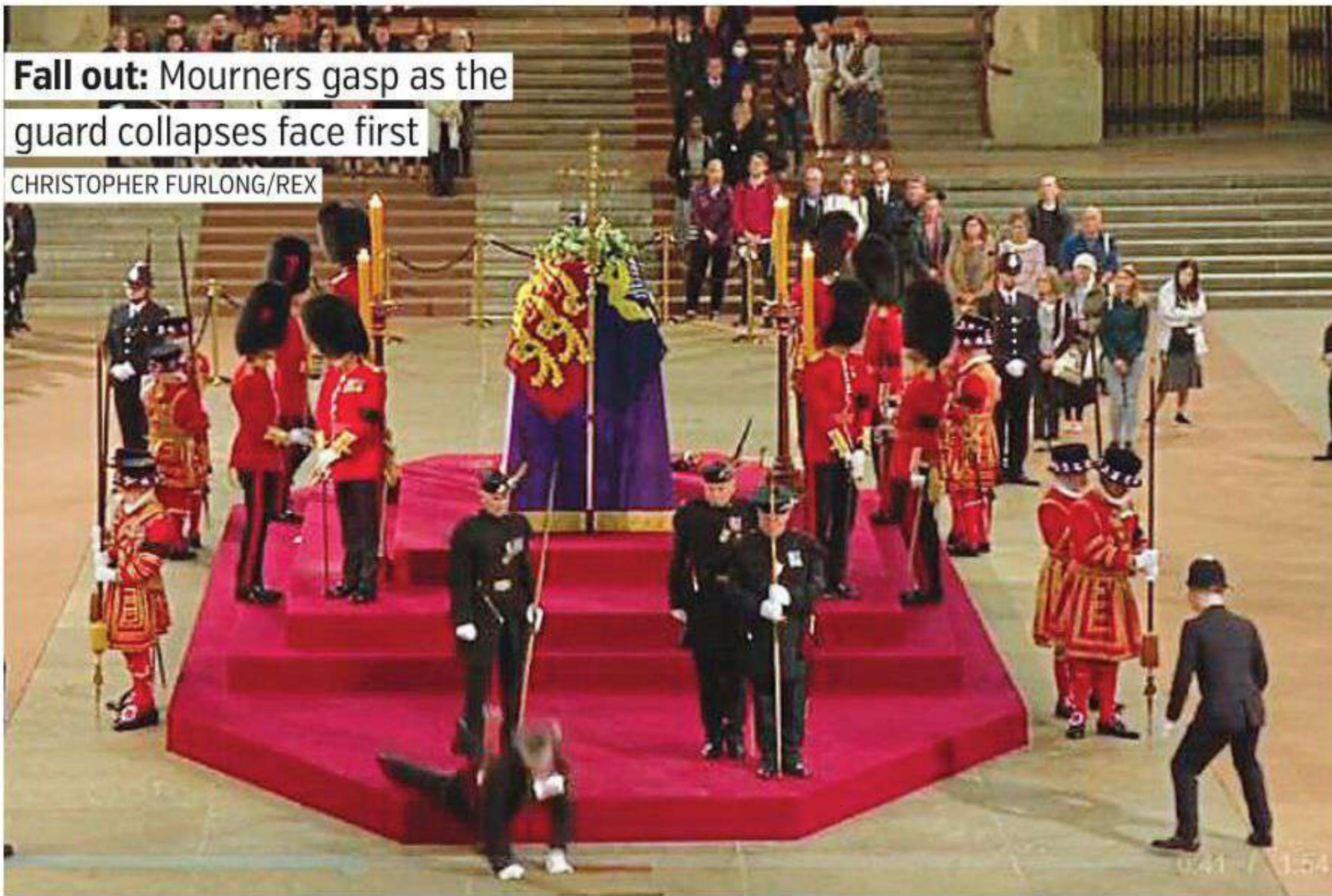
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After 4.5hrs, we stood in awed silence

METRO'S **SIAN ELVIN** JOINED THE LONG QUEUE TO PAY RESPECT TO OUR QUEEN



Time for reflection: Sian and Chris [circled] file past the Queen's coffin NEIL SULLIVAN

IT WAS 5.40am as I stumbled through Waterloo station bleary-eyed, clutching a coffee and ready to tackle the most British of challenges - queuing to see the Queen lying in state.

I walked alongside the river Thames in the near-dark to reach the very end of the two-mile long queue - dubbed by many as the new Elizabeth Line.

Stepping into line I exclaimed: 'We've found the front!' A friendly worker joked: 'Er... I think you'll find this is very much the back.' Undeterred, my boyfriend Chris McKeon and I unwrapped breakfast and prepared to wait.

Despite the sombre occasion and early hour, people were bright and lively - with chatter bubbling along the line.

And while there were brief periods of stopping, the queue was constantly moving - albeit slowly - and soon I found myself deep in conversation.

Author Andrew Halas, 70, told me: 'I was lucky enough to actually live for the entire reign of the Queen, and I just feel that she's been such a part of my life because she's always... been there.'

Passing the British Film Institute, large screens showed old footage of mourners queuing to see George VI lying in state and I realised little had changed, except for perhaps the more relaxed dress.

At the London Eye we received the coveted wristband, which allowed us to



An orderly queue: Sian and Chris in line pop out of the queue and grab refreshments or use nearby portable toilets.

Finally, we reached the Palace of Westminster and were told to ditch food and drink, switch off phones and go through security.

After four-and-a-half hours, we walked through St Stephen's entrance.

Visitors fell silent - the very presence of Her Majesty's body commanding respect. I stood gazing at the soldiers on their vigil and the flag-draped coffin, with a bouquet and crown jewels on top.

Like me, many had peeled away from friends for a moment alone. Outside, some wiped away tears and hugged. I found Chris and we walked away silently, neither of us wanting to speak first.

1926-2022 Elizabeth II

It's the fainting of the guard at Queen's vigil

MOURNERS were horrified early yesterday when one of the guards holding vigil at the Queen's catafalque in Westminster Hall fainted.

The soldier was seen swaying on his feet before his collapse. Moments earlier, he briefly stepped off the podium before retaking his position.

His face-first fall to the stone floor brought gasps from bystanders and the official lying-in-state livestream cut out for several minutes as police rushed to the guard's aid. Units

from the Sovereign's Bodyguard, the Household Division or Yeoman Warders of the Tower of London are guarding the coffin round the clock.

The previous day a member of the royal family, Lady Gabriella Windsor, 41, apparently fainted, also at Westminster Hall.

She was later seen leaving arm-in-arm with her husband, Thomas Kingston.



Concern: Lady Gabriella [circled] apparently fainted, but left with her husband (inset)

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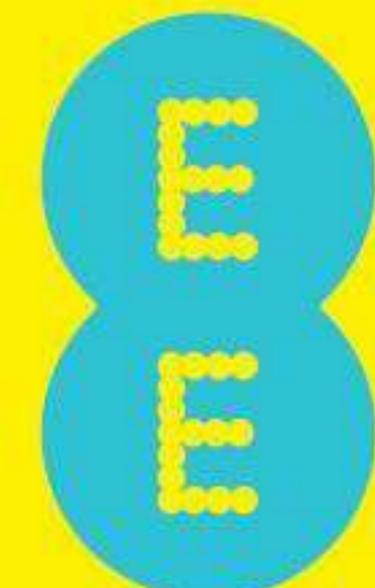


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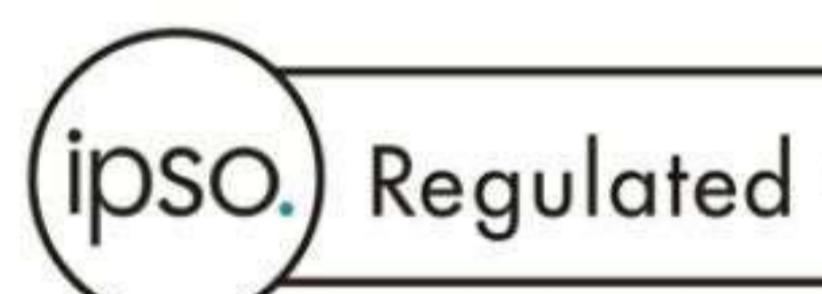
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Band practice: Pipers in early-morning rehearsal for Monday's funeral in London DANNY LAWSON/PA

Line of duty for Queen is family ritual

SCOTS SAILOR TO PERFORM SAME ROLE AT FUNERAL AS GRANDAD DID FOR CORONATION

A YOUNG Scottish sailor whose grandfather guarded the Queen at her coronation has told of his pride at his role in the monarch's state funeral on Monday.

Murray Kerr, 20, from Ayr, will be part of the Royal Navy ceremonial guard which will line the streets of London as Her Majesty is laid to rest.

His 92-year-old grandfather, John Kerr, performed the same role on The Mall for the coronation. As soon as he was activated for duty at the funeral, Able Seaman Murray called the former Scots Guard, who lives in Irvine, North Ayrshire.

'My grandad has always spoken with pride about his time in the Guards but the one thing, whenever I mention anything ceremonial, was

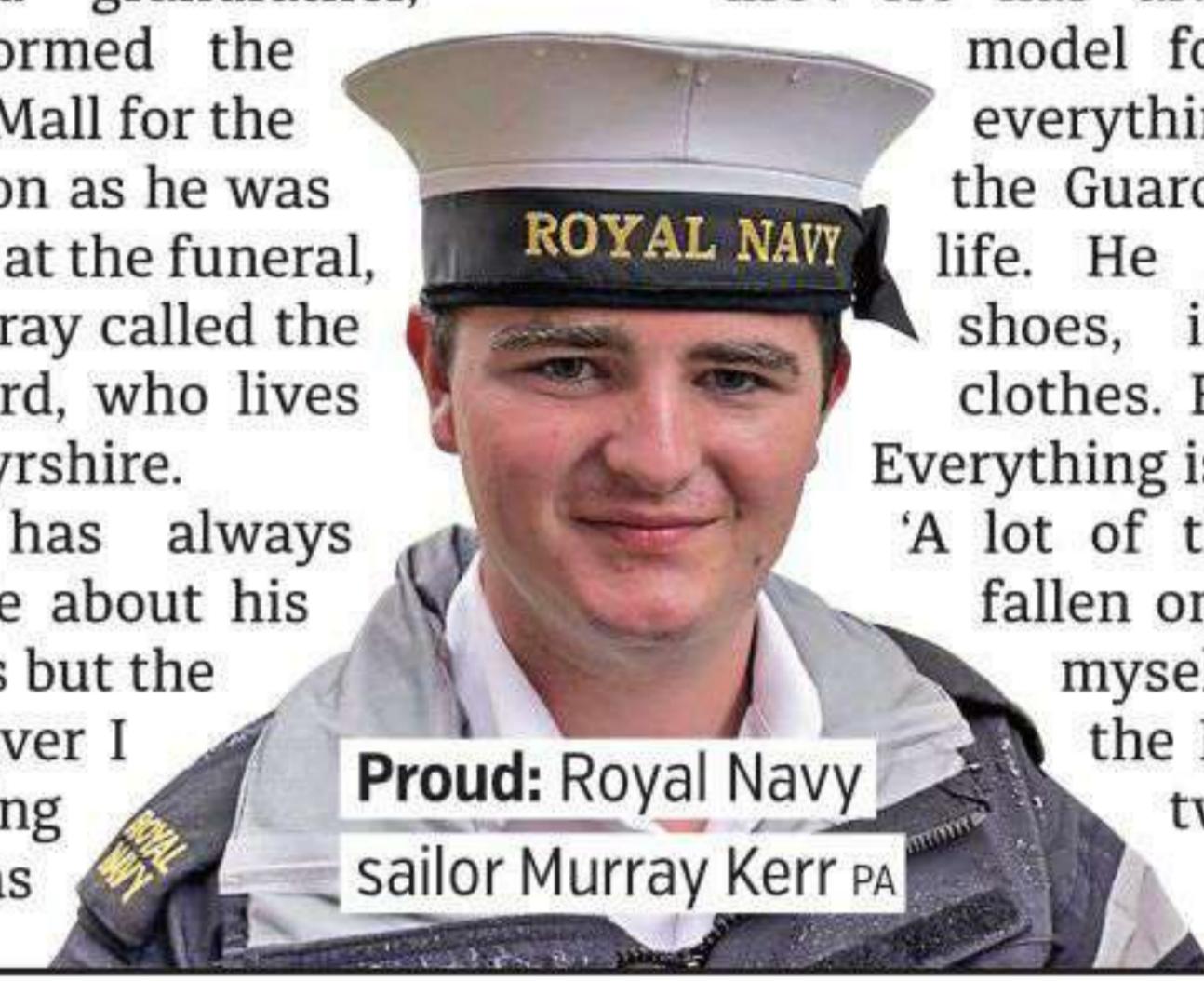
by STEPHEN DEAL

about being at the Queen's coronation. That was a defining part of his life, not just his career,' Murray said.

'It is do the best you can. Look impeccable. My grandad said, "do this and you'll remember it for the rest of your life".

He has always been a role model for me. He carried everything he learned in the Guards into his civilian life. He still polishes his shoes, irons all of his clothes. Everything is neat. Everything is pressed.

'A lot of that discipline has fallen on to my father and myself. My father joined the Fire Service. These two great services that moulded



Proud: Royal Navy sailor Murray Kerr PA

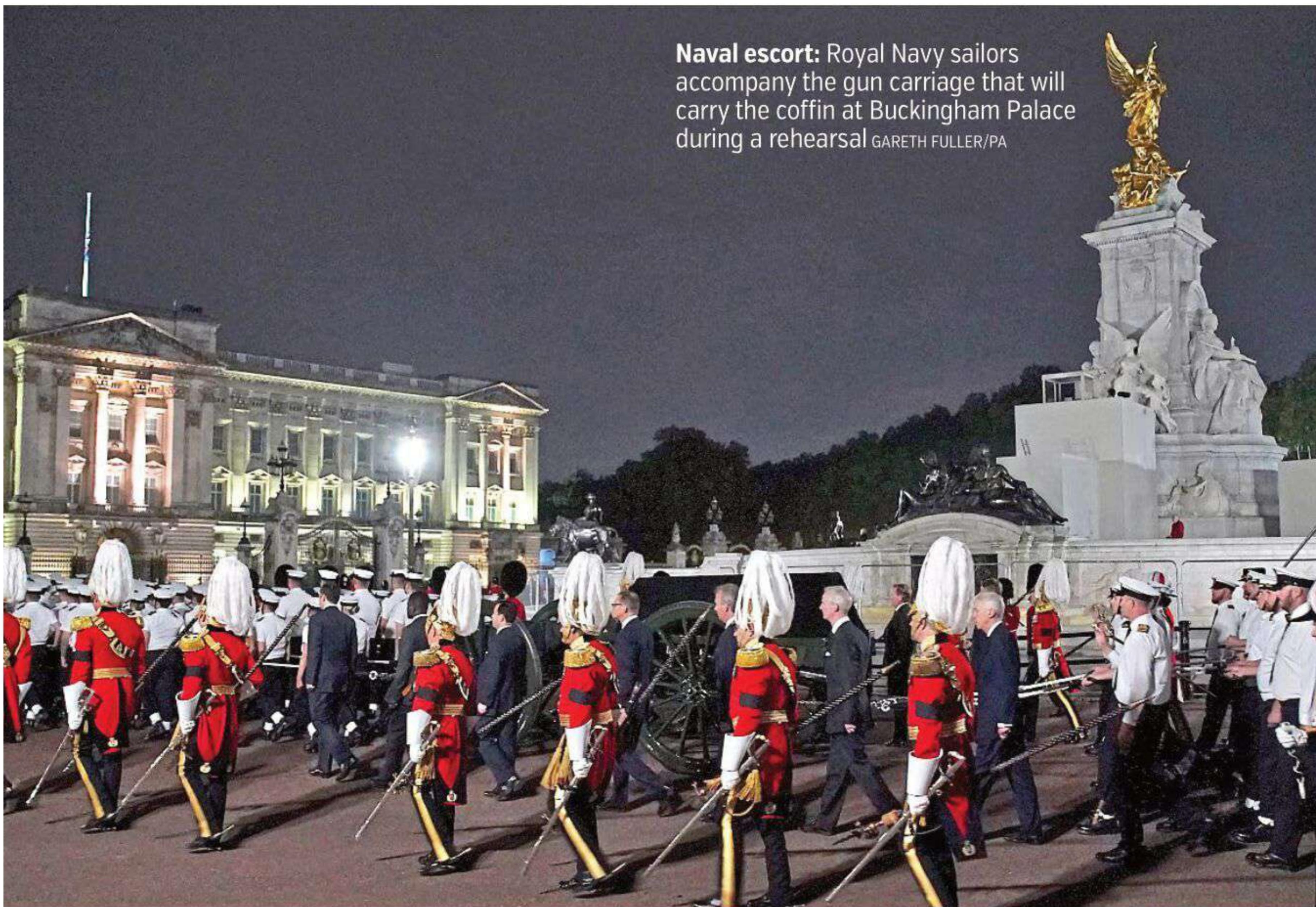
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Naval escort: Royal Navy sailors accompany the gun carriage that will carry the coffin at Buckingham Palace during a rehearsal GARETH FULLER/PA



Standing guard: Alister Jack, wearing black on left, and Ben Wallace join vigil GETTY
Cabinet ministers join vigil over coffin at Westminster Hall

SCOTTISH secretary Alister Jack stood vigil at the Queen's coffin yesterday as she lies in state in Westminster Hall.

The Tory MP for Dumfries and Galloway was joined by another cabinet minister, defence secretary Ben Wallace, on the raised platform on which the coffin rests.

Both men, who stood solemnly in dark uniforms, are members of the Royal

Company of Archers, which functions as the sovereign's bodyguard in Scotland.

The unit also watched over the coffin while it was in St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh earlier in the week.

The coffin is also being guarded in Westminster Hall by the Sovereign's Bodyguard, the Household Division and Yeoman Warders of the Tower of London.

Service to be broadcast live on HM's 'doorstep'

THE QUEEN'S funeral on Monday will be broadcast on a big screen in the park on the 'doorstep' of her 'beloved' residence in the Scottish capital.

It will be screened in Holyrood Park, in front of the Palace of Holyroodhouse, where the Queen's coffin was taken after she died at Balmoral last week.

Council leader Cammy Day said: 'I can think of no more fitting venue - in the Queen's own park on the doorstep of her beloved Palace of Holyroodhouse. I hope people of all ages will take this opportunity to say a final farewell to Her Majesty.'

them have moulded me. All these things have come down to me being on parade on Monday for the Queen's funeral, with the aim of being the smartest and best group that lines the streets.

'We want to be there for Her Majesty. We're not doing this for anyone else.' His

grandfather John was on National Service with the Scots Guards in 1953 and was part of the coronation procession that took place through London.

He was one of 16,000 participants on the five-mile route.

The Royal Navy will pull the State

Ceremonial Gun Carriage bearing the Queen's coffin on a two-mile route - a duty they have performed since the funeral of Queen Victoria in 1901.

Up to 1,500 sailors are set to take part and have been rehearsing at HMS Collingwood in Fareham, Hampshire.



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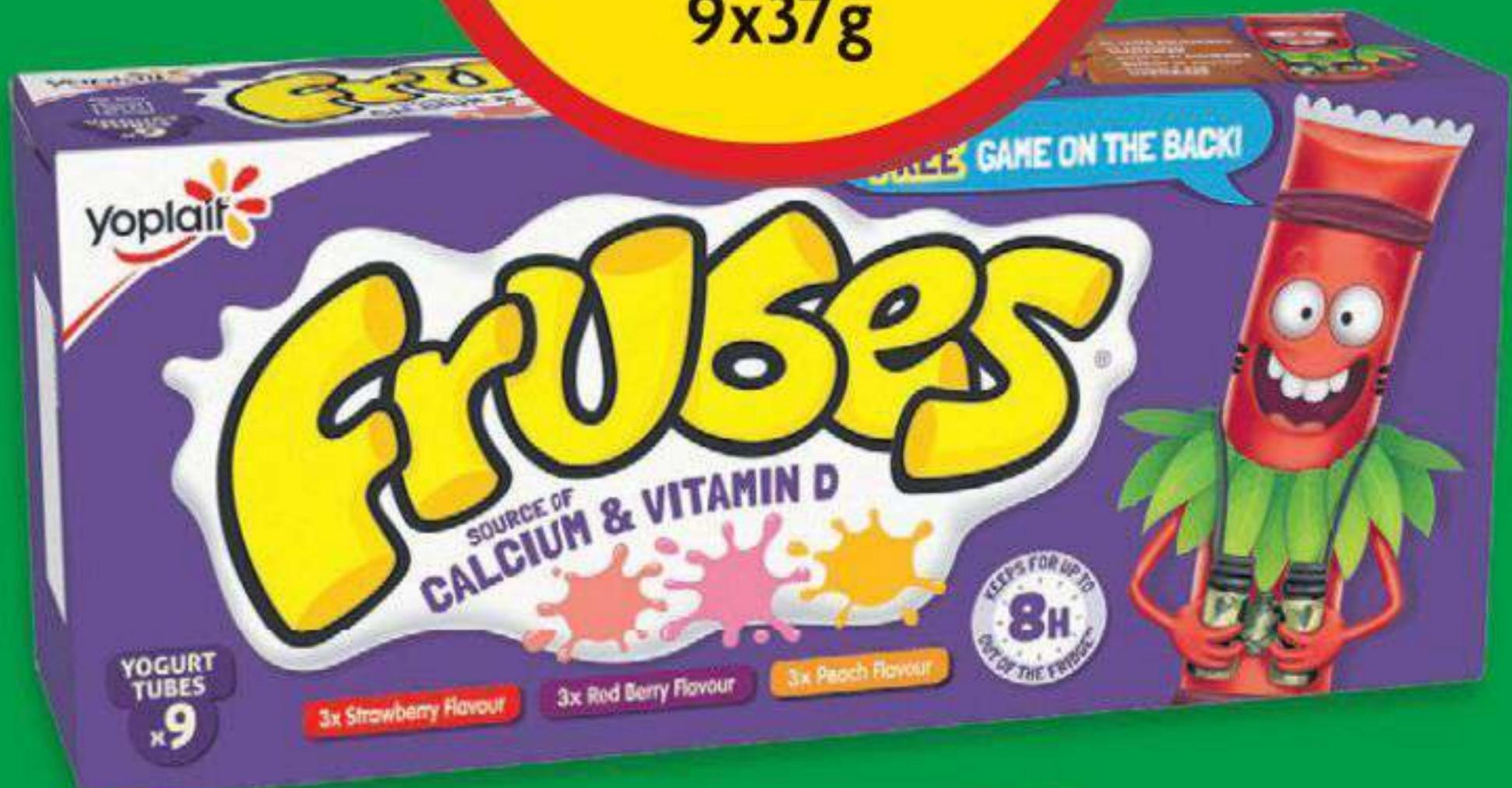


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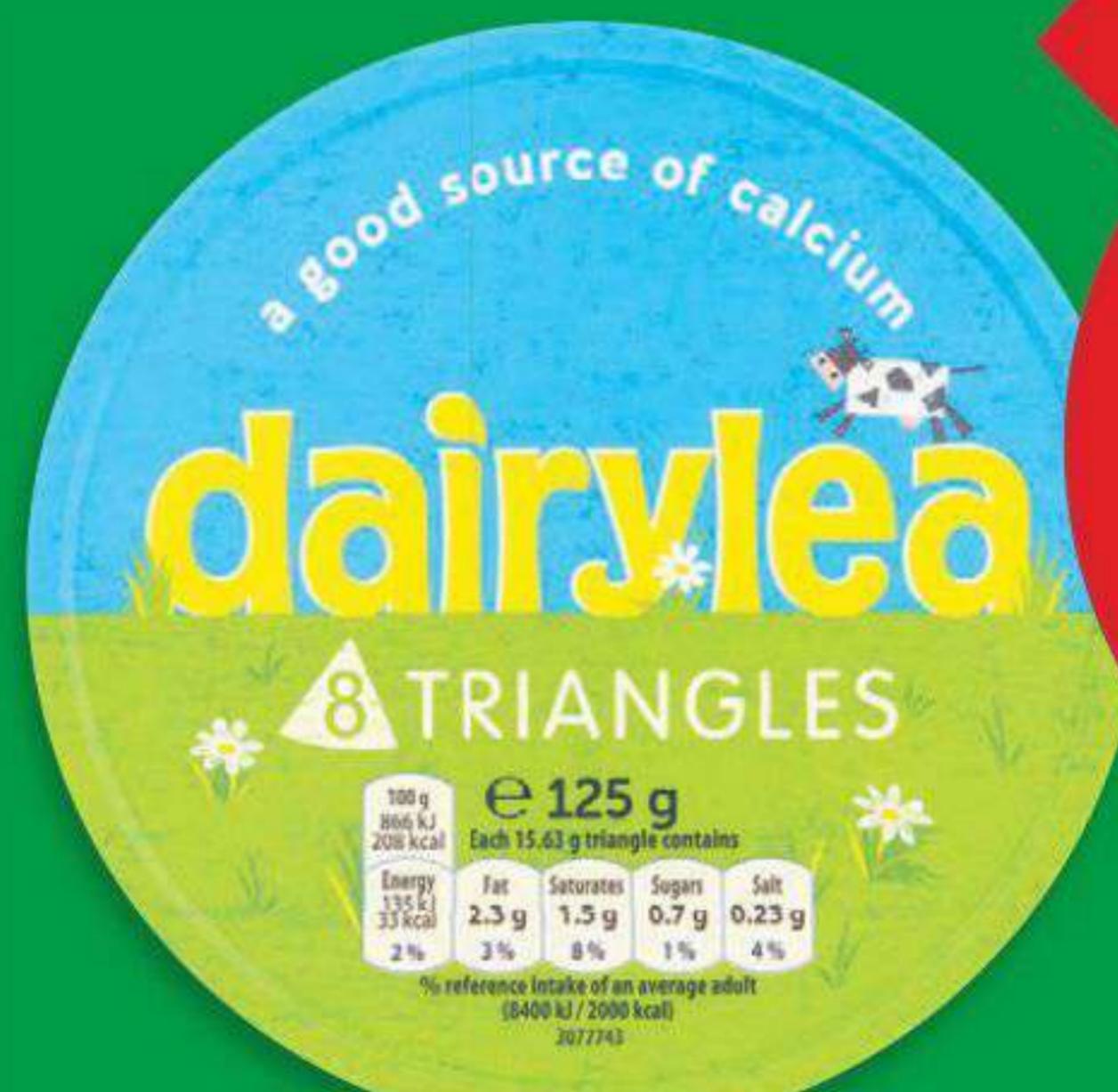


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BIDEN'S 'BEAST' JETS IN

PRESIDENT 'SHUNS BUS' TO DRIVE TO FUNERAL IN £1.3m ARMoured LIMO

JOE BIDEN has been granted special dispensation to travel in his armoured car to the Queen's funeral on Monday – as many other world leaders will reportedly have to take a shared coach.

The US president's £1.3million Cadillac limo, nicknamed The Beast, is thought to weigh up to 20,000lb and is reinforced with an 8in-thick metal wall – making its doors as heavy as a Boeing 757's.

While the US Secret Service has long refused to give details of the car, it is reportedly able to fire tear gas, put out a smokescreen and spray oil to make pursuing vehicles spiral out of control.

Its door handles are said to be able to cause an electric shock and its windows to withstand bullets – while it is also claimed the vehicle can be sealed to protect against biochemical attacks.

Previous president Donald Trump was

by DANIEL BINNS

the first user of the latest version, and was said to carry a mini fridge in it, containing reserves of his blood type.

It is unclear if The Beast's full parade of vehicles will accompany it for Her Majesty's funeral at Westminster Abbey, but the car almost always travels in a motorcade with dozens of Secret Service guards and even an ambulance.

But its unwieldy bulk could pose problems. There was embarrassment for the White House in 2011, as The Beast was undone by an exit ramp at Dublin's US embassy during a visit by Barack Obama.

Video footage shows a crowd gasping in shock as the limo jerks suddenly and stops with a loud clang, its wheel seeming to get caught – before Secret Service staff rush to help.

Charles to hold reception as world leaders arrive

THE King is to host world leaders arriving for his mother's funeral.

Japan's Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako – on a first trip abroad since he took the throne in 2019 – and Joe Biden are among those to be greeted by Charles at Buckingham Palace on Sunday.

France's Emmanuel Macron, Ireland's Micheal Martin, Canada's Justin Trudeau, New Zealand's Jacinda Ardern and European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen will also pay their respects at the funeral. But



China's Xi Jinping will reportedly send vice-president Wang Qishan in his place. Indian PM Narendra Modi and Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan are also expected to send others.

King Felipe of Spain, as well as the Dutch and Belgian monarchs, are set to attend. Invitations were not sent to Russia or Belarus because of the invasion of Ukraine – nor to Syria, Afghanistan or Myanmar.

Foreign secretary James Cleverly will host another reception after Monday's funeral.

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Kwarteng 'plans to scrap the cap on banker bonuses'

by JOEL TAYLOR

CHANCELLOR Kwasi Kwarteng has been accused of sending a 'confused signal' to struggling families with plans to scrap limits on bankers' bonuses.

The cap, introduced by the European Union in the wake of the 2008 financial crash, curbs annual payouts to twice a banker's salary – though banks frequently bypass it by paying higher salaries.

Mr Kwarteng reportedly wants to make the move as part of a wider post-Brexit overhaul of City regulations that would make London more attractive to global banks. But the unconfirmed plan has attracted widespread criticism.

Former Bank of England monetary policy committee member Andrew Sentance told BBC Radio 4: 'It sends a rather confused signal when people are being squeezed in terms of the cost of living and the government is trying to encourage pay restraint in the public sector.'

TUC general secretary Frances O'Grady said:

Ask for a rise? I'd be too nervous

CASH-STRAPPED workers would rather change their lifestyle than ask for a pay rise, a poll finds.

Some 27 per cent would find it too awkward to ask for more cash. And one in four said demanding an increase in pay would make them feel anxious. Instead, many

would prefer to cut their own hair, downgrade their car or rent out a room in their home to ease their financial troubles, a survey by employee benefits specialist Edenred found.

Fifteen per cent said they would cut back on eating out to save

THE John Lewis Partnership is 'forgoing profit' to help staff and customers navigate the cost of living crisis. The employee-owned retailer says it will give full-time staff a £500 one-off payment. Part-time workers will receive a pro-rata payment. The chain will also raise entry-level pay by four per cent. It comes after the retailer slumped to a £99million half-year loss as it reined in prices for customers despite rising costs.

The chancellor's number one priority should be getting wages rising for everyone – not boosting bumper bonuses for those at the top.'

Next Friday, Mr Kwarteng is expected to announce a mini-budget to help the country as it faces soaring bills but it is unclear if the bonus plan will be included.

costs and a tenth would sell their belongings to boost their income. Andy Philpott, of Edenred, said: 'This is a shame as there is a clear opportunity for employers to provide support and enhance engagement in the current climate.'



'Confused signal': Critics hit out Mr Kwarteng's proposal PA

Amazon staff vote on 'historic' strike action

HUNDREDS of Amazon staff at a warehouse in Coventry are being balloted on strike action in an ongoing row over pay.

'They're being offered a 35p-an-hour rise in the worst cost of living crisis in a generation, from a company worth £1trillion. They are furious,' said the GMB.

They could be Amazon's first UK workers to strike, 'making history', the union added.

Profits dip at DFS as rising bills hit sales

FURNITURE chain DFS has warned retailers are facing a downturn as sales slumped in the cost of living crisis.

Profits plunged 43 per cent to £58.5million in the year to June as orders 'softened markedly'.

Boss Tim Stacey said it had been the most challenging year in memory, with Covid-related supply chain issues and double-digit cost inflation on materials.

Brexit row brewing as trade checks are halted

BORDER checks on goods entering Northern Ireland from the UK will continue to be suspended, ministers have said.

The move is likely to anger the EU. It comes as No.10 last night notified Brussels of its response to seven lawsuits brought over its alleged failure to implement the Northern Ireland protocol of the post-Brexit trade deal.



Face to face: Putin (left) and Xi Jinping

ALEXANDER DEMYANCHUK/
SPUTNIK/GETTY

by JOEL TAYLOR

PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin had his first face-to-face meeting with Chinese ruler Xi Jinping since the invasion of Ukraine yesterday as Russia reels from a series of military losses.

At the summit of despots in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, Putin praised president Xi for his 'balanced' position on the conflict as he condemned 'attempts to create a unipolar world'.

He said: 'We highly value the balanced position of our Chinese friends when it comes to the Ukraine crisis.'

'We understand your questions and concern about this. During today's



■ A CAR has hit Volodymyr Zelensky's motorcade in Kyiv. 'The president was examined by a doctor, no serious injuries were found,' said a spokesman after a private vehicle collided with the Ukrainian president's car late on Wednesday. Footage from the scene (right) shows a damaged

meeting, we will of course explain our position.'

Putin's first remarks about Chinese concern over the war come days after a lightning rout of his forces in north-

eastern Ukraine. China has refrained from condemning Russia's operation against Ukraine or calling it an 'invasion' - in line with the Kremlin, which casts the war as 'a special military

operation'. The last time Mr Xi and Putin met in person, only weeks before Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, they declared a 'no limits' partnership and inked a promise to collaborate more



against the West. However, Beijing is perturbed by the impact on the global economy and has been careful not to give material support to Russia that could trigger Western sanctions on its own economy.

Kyiv says it has recaptured more than 3,000sq miles - almost equivalent to the size of Cyprus. The speed of the advance has lifted Ukrainian morale, pleased Western backers who provided arms, intelligence and training and raised hopes of further significant gains before winter sets in.

But Serhiy Gaidai, the governor of Ukraine's Luhansk region, warned they will have to continue to 'fight hard'.

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METRO BITES

■ A MAN recently diagnosed with brain cancer and who is now semi-paralysed has completed a charity microlight flight. Jamie Fairweather, 61, flew over his home in Gullane, East Lothian, during yesterday's 40-minute flight, raising £45,000 for the Brain Tumour Charity.

■ A DRUG for severe eczema in young children is highly effective and safe, a trial has found. In the international study, published in *The Lancet*, dupilumab improved the skin condition in two weeks in under-sixes. Doctors hope it will be approved for the age group.

■ TROPICAL songbirds' colourful plumage puts them at risk of extinction as they are targeted by the pet trade. Almost 500 species are vulnerable, warned the Durham University team - including some already critically endangered, such as the Bornean green magpie.

Cops probe Nicky's abuse claims at top Scots school

POLICE have launched an investigation into historic claims of abuse at a top private school attended by BBC presenter Nicky Campbell.

The broadcaster claimed he was beaten by a teacher during his time at Edinburgh Academy in the 1970s.

Police Scotland said their inquiry was 'live and ongoing' and a dedicated team was probing the claims.

A spokesman said: 'While the investigation of child abuse can be complex and challenging, anyone who reports this type of crime can be assured we will listen and investigate, no matter when those offences occurred or who committed them.'

'If you have suffered abuse, or you know anyone who may have been the

by STEPHEN DEAL

victim of child abuse, then please call Police Scotland.'

Campbell made the claims in July during an episode of his BBC podcast *Different*. He said the experience had a 'profound effect on my life'.

Speaking to BBC Radio 5 Live later, the 61-year-old said: 'I was badly beaten up at school by a teacher.'

'My mother took it as far as she could and got a grovelling apology from (the man involved) but was essentially stonewalled and it was hushed up by the school. Those were different times and that has stayed with me all my life.'

The Scot also said he saw a different teacher sexually abuse his friend in

the changing rooms after rugby. He added: 'I cannot describe it here and I can never unsee it. This man was known to us all as a predator and a sadist but we never told anyone.'

The school said it 'deeply' regrets the allegations and 'wholeheartedly' apologised to those involved.

In a previously released statement, the school said: 'We have worked closely with the relevant authorities, including Police Scotland, with their inquiries and would like to provide reassurance that things have dramatically changed since the 1970s.'

'The Academy has robust measures in place to safeguard children at the school with child protection training now core to the ethos of the Academy.'



'Badly beaten': Nicky Campbell REX

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IN BRIEF**M-way death mystery investigated by police**

POLICE are probing the death of a man, 47, beside the M80 near Denny in Stirlingshire. Police were called to Station Road, underneath the motorway, at around 12.10am yesterday and found the man's body. It is believed his silver Ford Fiesta broke down on the M80 at 10.50pm on Wednesday. Det Sgt Andy Gardner said: 'His death is being treated as unexplained.'

Barrister is jailed for raping his Tinder date

A BARRISTER said to have laughed after forcing himself on his Tinder date has been jailed for four years for rape following a retrial.

Robin Jacobs, 39, unexpectedly initiated anal sex with the woman in 2017, jurors heard. She yelled 'get out' and he moved away, saying: 'I shouldn't laugh' as he chuckled, the Old Bailey was told. Jacobs, who has autism spectrum disorder, shouted: 'I didn't do it.'

Migrants saved in Channel rescue op as boats flounder

AROUND 30 migrants were saved after their boats got into trouble crossing the Channel yesterday.

A huge rescue operation, by a coastguard helicopter, aeroplane, RNLI lifeboats from Dover and Dungeness, the Royal Navy, police and Border Force, began just after 8am. Those rescued - including several plucked from the sea - were brought into harbour at Dover and Ramsgate. The MoD said there were no fatalities.

The latest arrivals take the total number of migrants landing on the Kent and Sussex coast to a record 29,099 so far this year.



Missing: Paul Johnson

Family still hope to find their 'wonderful grandad'

THE family of a 'wonderful' grandfather who went missing a year ago say they continue to hope, as police renew their appeal for information on the anniversary of his disappearance.

Paul Johnson, now 75, left Hay Fleming Avenue in St Andrews, Fife, at about 10pm on September 15, 2021 and was last seen at about 10.45pm on Hepburn Gardens, at the junction with Lawhead Road.

In a statement released

through police, his family said: 'At no point when our wonderful dad, husband and grandad went missing, did it cross our minds that a year on we would still be searching for answers.'

'We continue to move forward with hope.'

'Our ability to move forward comes from the incredible support, friendship and care we receive from all around us in our community and beyond. We will always be grateful to you all.'

PC 'struck ex-Prem star Atkinson on the ground'

A POLICEWOMAN struck retired footballer Dalian Atkinson up to three times with a baton as he lay on the ground, a jury heard.

West Mercia Police constable Mary Ellen Bettley-Smith, 32, denies assaulting the ex-Aston Villa star, who died after the 2016 incident in Telford, Shropshire.

The retrial at Birmingham crown court continues.

Lot of bottle! Beer lover's record bid

A GEORDIE beer fan has 130 rare editions of Newcastle Brown Ale - including a £250 Silver Star label bottle - and is 20 away from owning every limited label.

Michael Hewitt, 41, who lives in Motherwell, will contact Guinness World Records once he has the set. 'I'm confident no-one has more bottles,' said the finance director, who started drinking the ale to hold on to his roots.

Record entry for Scottish album prize

ORGANISERS of the Scottish Album of the Year award say they received a 'record-breaking' 369 submissions from artists this year. Impartial music industry nominators have selected a list of 20, which will be cut to ten before a public vote. The winner of the £20,000 prize will be announced at a ceremony at the Albert Halls in Stirling on October 20.

Police appeal after tragic crash

POLICE have appealed for information following the death of a woman after her car crashed into a wall.

The 31-year-old was driving a blue Vauxhall Astra when it hit the wall at the junction between Beith Road and Overton Road in Johnstone, Renfrewshire, at 3.30am yesterday. She was later pronounced dead in hospital.

'Goodnight, Olivia' as mum says tearful final farewell

THE mother of shooting victim Olivia Pratt-Korbel said 'goodnight' to the nine-year-old at her funeral yesterday.

Cheryl Korbel, 46, closed her eulogy with the words: 'She will never be forgotten. I will never say goodbye but what I will say is goodnight, love you, see you in the morning.'

Pink ties, jackets, scarves and bows were worn by those at the packed service in St Margaret Mary's Church in Liverpool after mourners were asked to put on a 'splash of pink'.

Olivia was fatally shot at her home in the city on August 22. Mrs Korbel, who was injured in the shooting, carried a pink teddy into the service. She described her daughter, who was born six weeks early and spent nine



'Loved and adored': Mourners wear pink in tribute to nine-year-old shooting victim Olivia Pratt-Korbell, left SWNS



Tears and a teddy: Mum Cheryl GETTY

days in a special baby unit, as 'chatty' and 'bubbly', and joked that she would talk so much they thought she ran on Duracell batteries.

She added: 'Olivia knew exactly how to wrap people around her little finger to get

what she wanted, especially her brother Ryan and sister Chloe. She would often give them a cheeky smile and they would give in instantly.'

'Liv touched so many people's hearts and was loved and adored by everyone.' Her father John Francis Pratt described Olivia as 'our very own little diva'.

Hundreds of mourners lined the street as her white coffin, decorated

with butterflies, was brought to the church in a horse-drawn carriage.

Police are still hunting the gunman who chased convicted burglar Joseph Nee into Olivia's home, where she died from a gunshot wound to her chest.

Crimestoppers founder Lord Ashcroft has offered a £50,000 reward through his charity for information leading to the conviction of the killer.

METRO BITES

THE pandemic's end is in sight, said World Health Organization head Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. But as deaths fell to their lowest since March 2020, he warned: 'Now is the worst time to stop running. Now is the time to run harder and make sure we cross the line.'

A WOMAN has died after a crash involving a car and a lorry in the Highlands. It happened on the A95 near Broomhill, Badenoch, at 7.45am on Wednesday. A 38-year-old woman, who was driving a grey Ford Focus, was pronounced dead at the scene.

NEW health secretary Therese Coffey has come under fire after her office told workers to 'be positive', avoid using policy wonk 'jargon' and not use Oxford commas - the final comma used in a list. One worker told the FT the email was 'super patronising'.

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SPACE JUNK FIREBALL

'SHOOTING STAR' SPOTTED OVER SCOTLAND WAS FALLING DEBRIS

by STEPHEN DEAL

A 'BRILLIANT fireball' seen in the skies above Britain is believed to have been space debris, experts have said.

The UK Meteor Network said it had received almost 800 reports about Wednesday night's lightshow.

The organisation said that having studied videos of the object it is now of the opinion it was space debris.

It comes after people spotted the fireball above parts of Scotland, northern England and Northern Ireland.

The UK Meteor Network said the preliminary trajectory has been calculated by the International Meteor Organisation, and this 'indicates the

object, which we now believe to be space debris, would have landed in the Atlantic south of the Hebrides'.

Reports of sightings starting coming in about 9pm on Wednesday, mainly from Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Danny Nell, 21, was walking his dog in Johnstone, Renfrewshire, when he saw the fireball. He said: 'It was 10pm on the dot and I saw the flash in the sky.'

'I thought it may be a firework but quickly realised it wasn't and grabbed my phone to see if I could catch it.'

Steve Owens, an astronomer at the

Glasgow Science Centre, said: 'It was incredible. I was in my living room at exactly 10pm and saw out of the window this brilliant fireball, this meteor streaking across the sky, and I could tell it was something special because I could see it through broken cloud.'

'It wasn't perfectly visible but I could see it was fragmenting and breaking apart. There were bits coming off it.'

'Normally, if you see a meteor or a shooting star, they are just tiny little streaks of light that last for a fraction of a second. This one was streaking across the sky for at least 10 seconds, so it was a pretty incredible sight.'



Lightshow: The spectacular fireball streaks through the night sky UK METEOR NETWORK

Family thank couple after missing dementia sufferer rescued

A FAMILY are seeking to track down Good Samaritans to thank them for helping an 88-year-old dementia sufferer who wandered out his house.

Brian Gough was found walking the streets in his pyjamas with no shoes on after going missing in Giffnock,

East Renfrewshire, just before 6am on September 1. Grandad-of-six Brian told his family he 'took a wrong turn on the way to the bathroom' after getting out of bed.

A couple found him and contacted police who managed to identify Brian

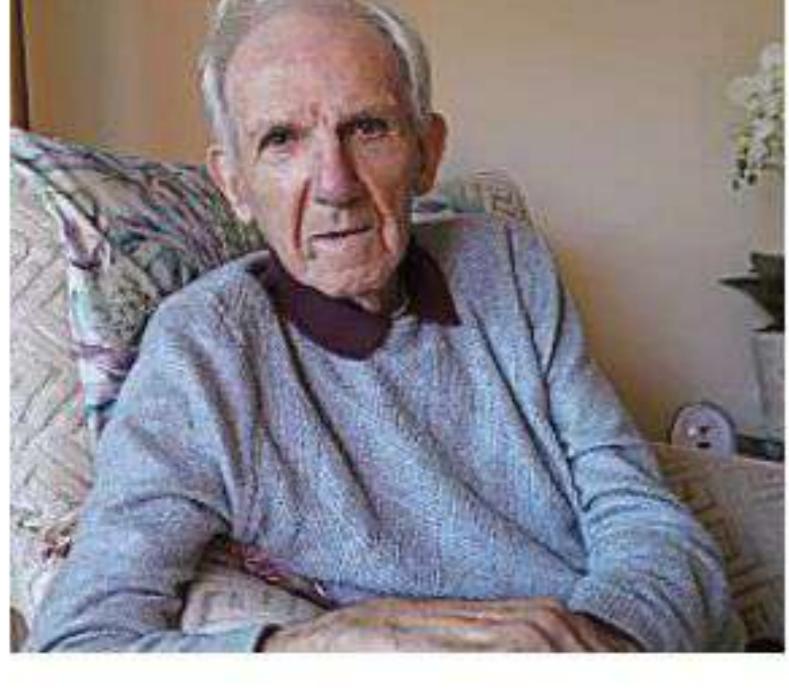
and find his address, which he had forgotten. He was returned to his wife Janice, 77. His daughter, Caroline Stevenson, 53, said: 'Anything could have happened to my dad. It has given us all a terrible fright.'

'He has never wandered away like

this before. We don't know how long he was away but he was frozen when he came back. We are all worried sick.'

'The police can't tell us about the couple who found him because of data protection but I'd love to thank them. I am so grateful they stopped to help.'

'Wrong turn': Brian Gough ended up walking streets SWNS



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Sheriff says tattoo pics can resolve ID mystery

by STEPHEN DEAL

IT SHOULD not be 'rocket science' to prove the identity of an alleged fugitive facing extradition to the US over sex charges, a court has heard.

Sheriff Kenneth Maciver added that it is 'pressing' to establish the identity of the man alleged to be Nicholas Rossi, who is said to have faked his own death to escape charges in the US.

Prosecutors at Edinburgh sheriff court say the man is Rossi, who allegedly raped a 21-year-old in Utah in 2008 and is also alleged to have attacked other women in America.

However, the 35-year-old man claims to be Arthur Knight, a victim of mistaken identity who has never been to the US.

Sheriff Maciver told defence agent Ronnie Renucci KC the issue of identity will be the first question the court has to answer at the extradition hearing.

He said: 'It is a serious matter if the person here is not the person sought, which is his position. That is a matter that has to be resolved quickly now.'

'There are photos in relation to identification, there are issues of DNA, fingerprints, there are also facial photos

which can be shown to facial experts, there are body photos with tattoos.'

'He could for example submit photos showing he has no tattoos, these are important issues which would allow us to move on with identification.'

Fiscal depute Clare Kennedy confirmed the Crown now has fingerprints.

The suspect, who appeared by video-link from HMP Edinburgh wearing an oxygen mask, was asked by Sheriff Maciver whether he is Rossi.

He replied: 'No, I am Arthur Knight and I would ask your Lordship if we could begin with a moment of silence in memory of her great Majesty.'

Sheriff Maciver said the issue of identity is not that difficult and can be tested through the photos, birth and marriage certificates and testimonials. He added: 'It's not rocket science.'

Mr Renucci said: 'I'm aware the issue of identity is critical. I understand steps will be taken to try to iron that out.' A further hearing will now take place on October 6.



Rossi or Knight?: The 35-year-old man at the centre of the extradition case PA

WORLD BITES

■ THE 'fingerprint' of climate change is on devastating floods in Pakistan, experts say. Global warming caused the one-in-a-100-year extreme rainfall event, the Centre for Climate Change and Sustainable Development shows. Around 1,500 people have died in the floods.

■ R KELLY has been convicted of making child sexual imagery and enticing minors for sex in Chicago. The disgraced musician, 55 was cleared of further enticement and pornography charges, plus obstructing justice. He is already in jail for trafficking.

■ SATURN'S rings may have been formed by a moon which crashed into it 160 million years ago. The collision with Chrysalis might also explain Saturn's tilt and wobbling orbit, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology team said after looking at data from Nasa's Cassini probe.

■ A DAD is suing US fast food chain Jack in the Box for \$1 million after claiming Texas drive-through employee Alonnae Fantasia Ford, 29, shot at his car after a row about missing curly fries. Anthony Ramos said his pregnant wife and daughter were with him.

■ AN OUTLAW goat has been seized by police in Arizona after terrorising locals and damaging a garage door. The sheriff's office in Tonopah said the goat - named Billy - was taken into custody at which point he 'assaulted' one of the deputies by urinating on them.

A FAMILY AFFAIRLINE

PILOT AND HIS WIFE AND THREE DAUGHTERS TAKE TO THE SKIES AS CREW ON FLIGHT



High fliers: Ingvar with Nina, Sigga Marta, Ingibjorg and Sigga Nanna and (left) with family in US SWNS



by DEAN MURRAY

FAMILY life has really taken off for pilot Ingvar Mar Jónsson – after his wife and three daughters joined him as crew on an Icelandair flight to the US.

The high-flying household managed to book rota changes so all of them were on board a return flight from their native Iceland to Washington DC.

And they took more family along for the ride – and a 24-hour stopover.

Mr Jónsson, 49, said: 'It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for us. The flight itself was conducted in a professional manner and family ties did not get in the way.'

'It was wonderful to spend time with the family during the 24-hour layover.'

The crew of the August flight from Keflavik included Capt Jónsson, his wife Sigga Nanna, 50, and daughters Nina Bjorg, 29, Ingibjorg Ingvarsottir, 23, and Sigga Marta, 20. Sigga Nanna

and Nina work full-time as flight attendants and the two younger sisters are at university but took summer jobs.

Mr Jónsson said: 'My wife Sigga Nanna and I first met in 1997 when we were on duty on an Icelandair flight. It

was love at first flight. It is very satisfying to witness our children grow up and become independent and hard-working people.'

'Along with us, we took my mother-in-law Ingibjorg. Also Petur, our daughter

Ingibjorg's boyfriend, and Thorir, Sigga Marta's boyfriend. Atlí, who is Nina's husband, stayed in Iceland to look after their two small children.'

'Our son Nonni, who is 17, also stayed in Iceland to look after our two dogs.'

WORLD BITES

■ A TEENAGER has been hailed a hero for saving a boy aged five from drowning in a swimming pool in Germany. Luis Martins, 14, dragged the youngster to safety then raised the alarm in Griesheim, Hesse state. The boy has fully recovered.

■ WITNESSES testifying about Sir Salman Rushdie's stabbing should be granted anonymity, lawyers argue. Suspect Hadi Matar, 24, appears in court later today and denies attempting to murder the author in New York last month.

■ SIX people are being held over the alleged rape and murder of two girls in India. The victims, aged 15 and 17 were found hanging from a tree in Lakhimpur Kheri district, Uttar Pradesh. The pair were abducted by men on motorbikes and later strangled with scarves.

■ DIPLOMATS have issued a safety warning to South Koreans living in Suriname, which is threatening to sue Netflix over Seoul-made drug drama *Narco-Saints*. The Latin American nation says the series shows its citizens in a bad light.

■ SCIENTISTS say they have found what may be the oldest heart ever, which is 380million years old. The organ from a fossilised jawed fish was discovered in Western Australia. It could determine how creatures evolved, said researchers.

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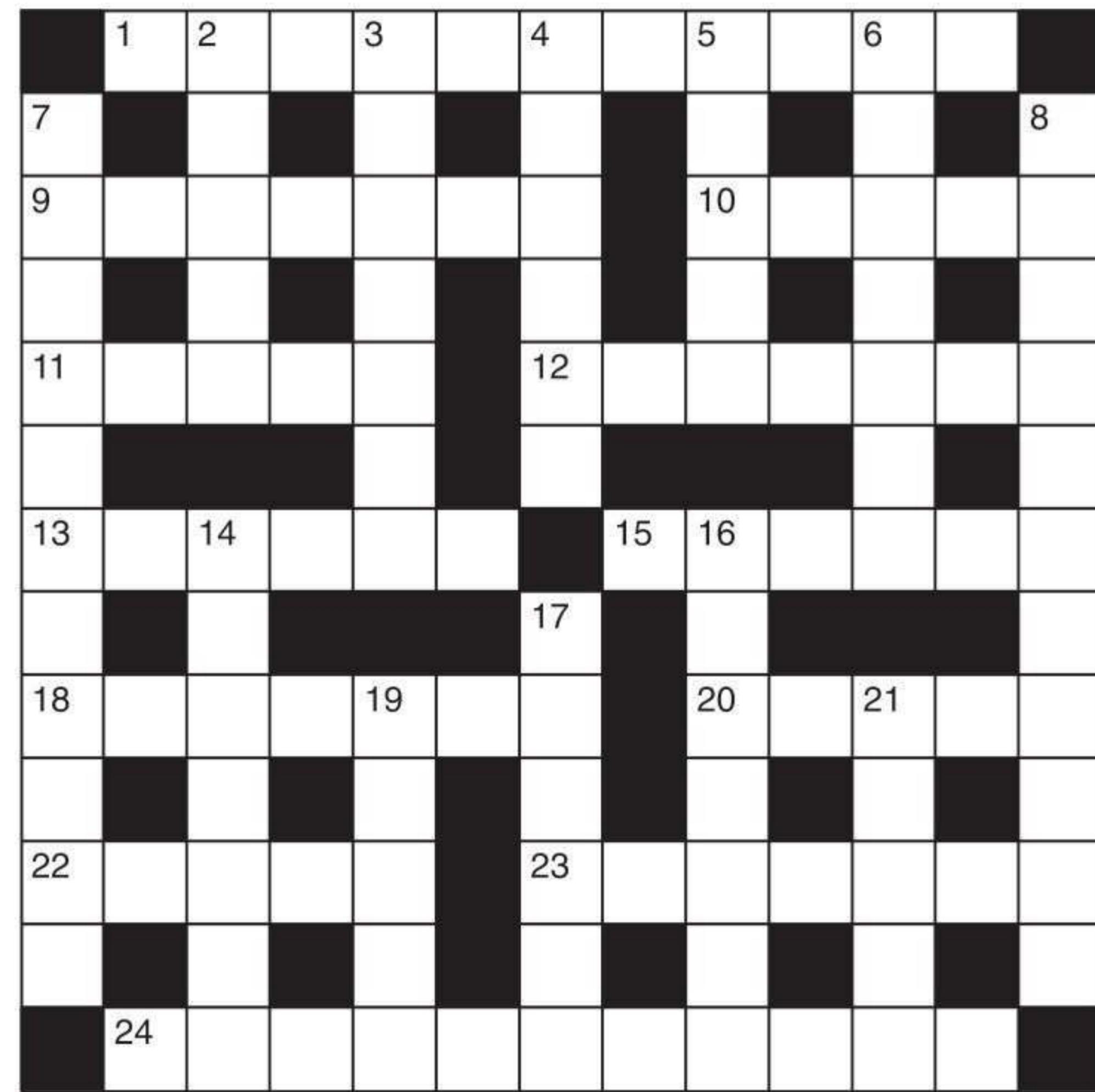
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PUZZLES

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Social drink helps political group's morale [5,6]
- Most cautious, but ties broken after fighting [7]
- Senior citizen could be wooden [5]
- Dragged into getting married? [5]
- To quarrel can be dangerous in this atomic age! [4,3]
- Greeted with stones from above? [6]
- How bulls would settle a doubtful question? [4,2]
- Overburden reporters with work [7]
- Banish Lee, who is upset about the team [5]
- Brings up to be backward? [5]
- Rue moan, but inspire to love [7]
- Stamp collector Philip swallowed a catalogue [11]

DOWN

- It is used in war, rowing, etc [5]
- Altered thing requiring footwork [7]
- Start to act as a foil [3,3]
- One business transaction that could not be better [5]
- No place for outsiders? [7]
- Where contact is made with electrifying results? [11]
- Witty peer, or what he might do to avoid being prosaic [5,6]
- Arraign one politician every one [7]
- Protective clothing for the big white chief? [7]
- Agree the idiot got the net tangled [6]
- A supporter of painting [5]
- Solid new things to worship [5]

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC

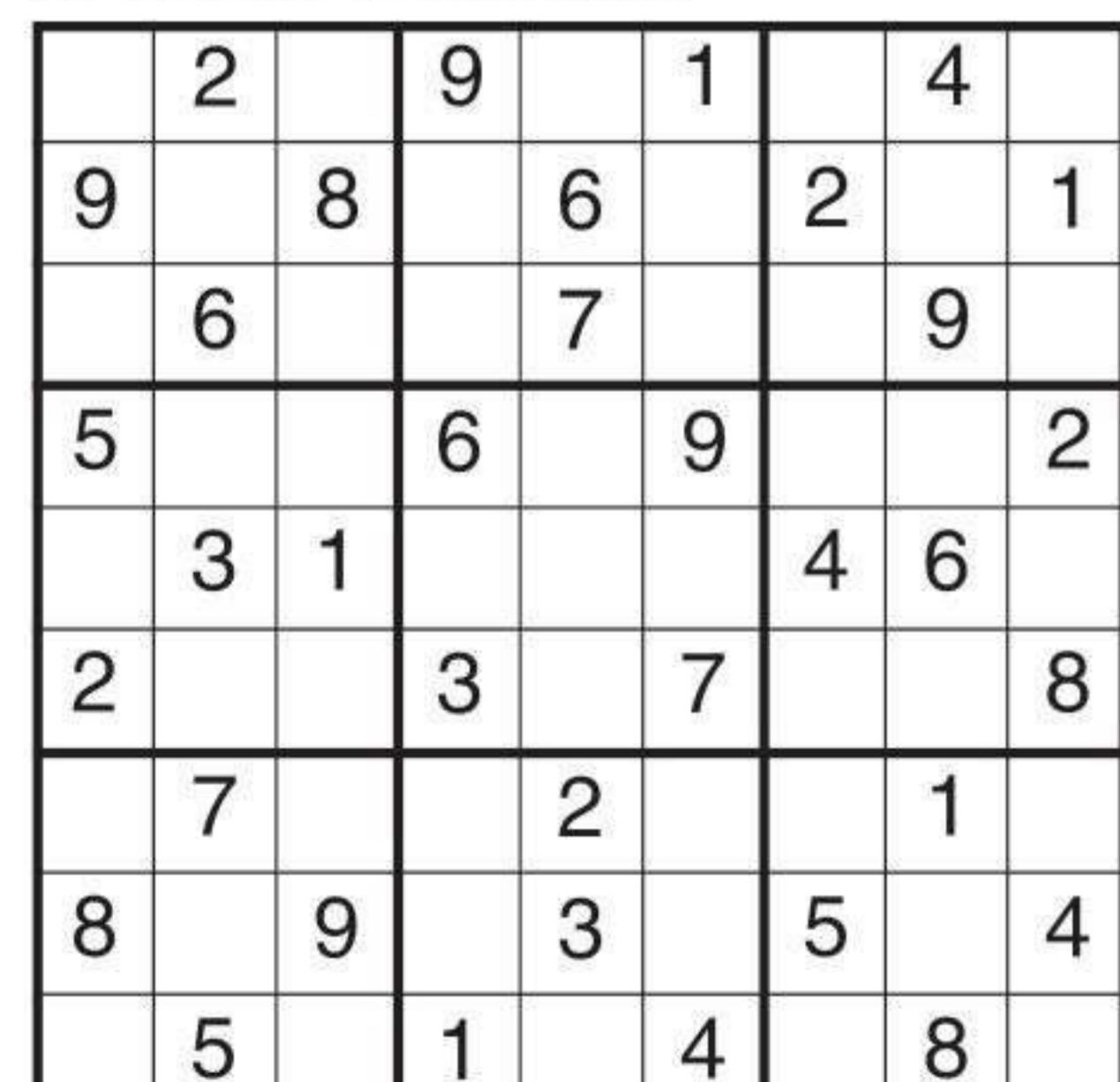
Across: 1 Hopeless; 5 Slab; 9 Stop; 10 Platoons; 11 Capri; 12 Noisome; 13 Secret passage; 18 Relation; 19 Owns; 20 Embrace; 21 Stern; 22 Heel; 23 Steadily. Down: 2 Outrage; 3 Emperor; 4 Silent protest; 6 Leonora; 7 Besiege; 8 Stairs; 13 Screech; 14 Calibre; 15 Extras; 16 Spotted; 17 General.

QUICK

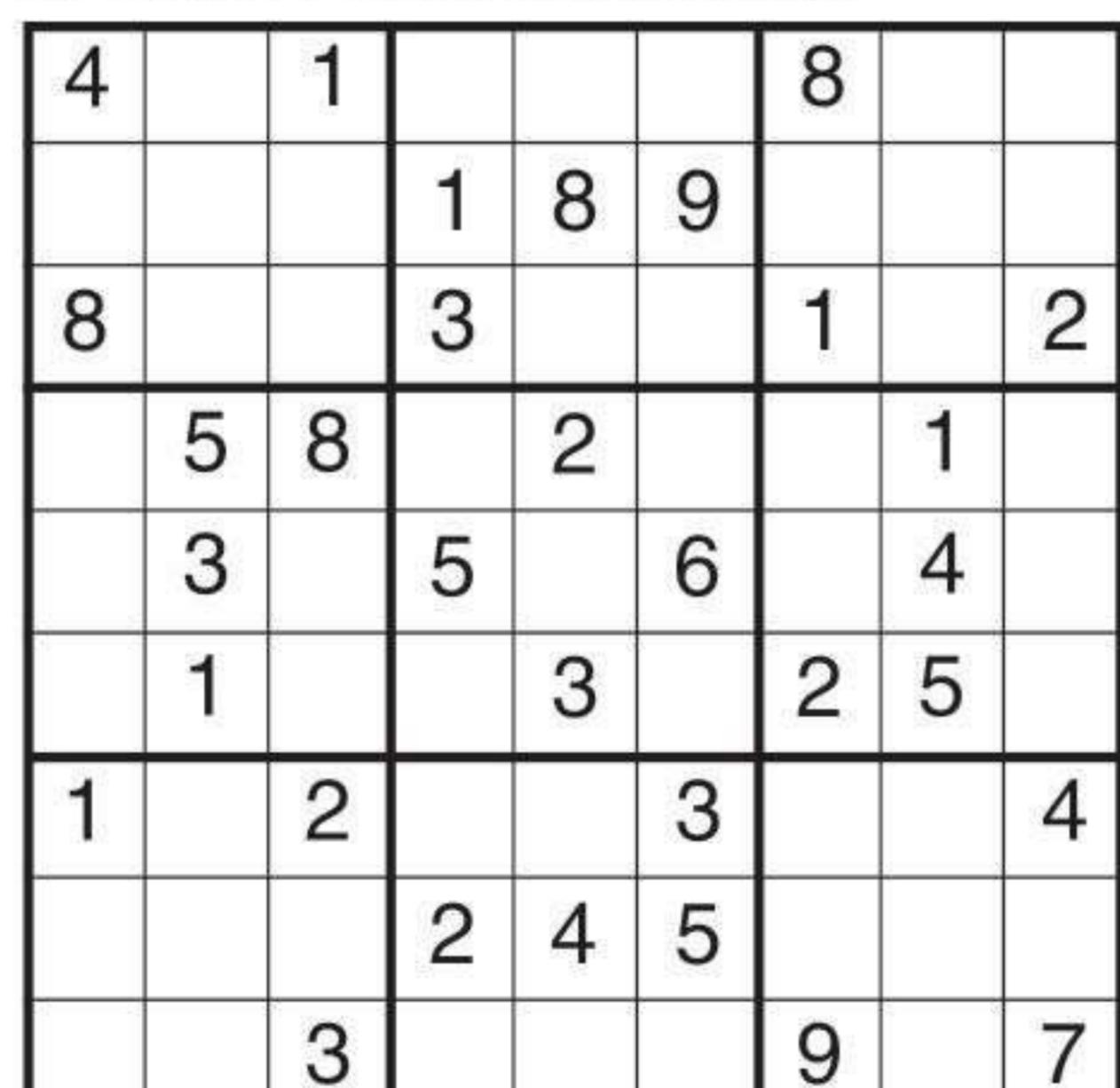
Across: 1 Female; 7 Roulette; 8 Bags; 10 Goatee; 11 Supine; 14 Net; 16 Manor; 17 Lads; 19 Bagel; 21 Latin; 22 Heron; 23 Dolt; 26 Titan; 28 Win; 29 Origin; 30 Solace; 31 Tout; 32 Serenade; 33 Trends. Down: 1 Frugal; 2 Abates; 3 Erise; 4 Albumen; 5 Stain; 6 Sever; 8 Band; 9 Get; 12 Pal; 13 Novel; 15 Baton; 18 Astir; 19 Bar; 20 Gin; 21 Lenient; 22 Hag; 23 Dilute; 24 On at; 25 Themes; 26 Toast; 27 Tiers; 28 Woo; 30 Stet.

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DIFFICULTY RATING: EASY



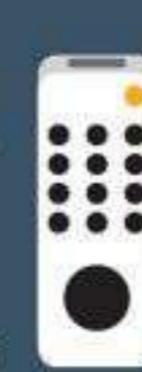
DIFFICULTY RATING: MODERATE



DIFFICULTY RATING: CHALLENGING



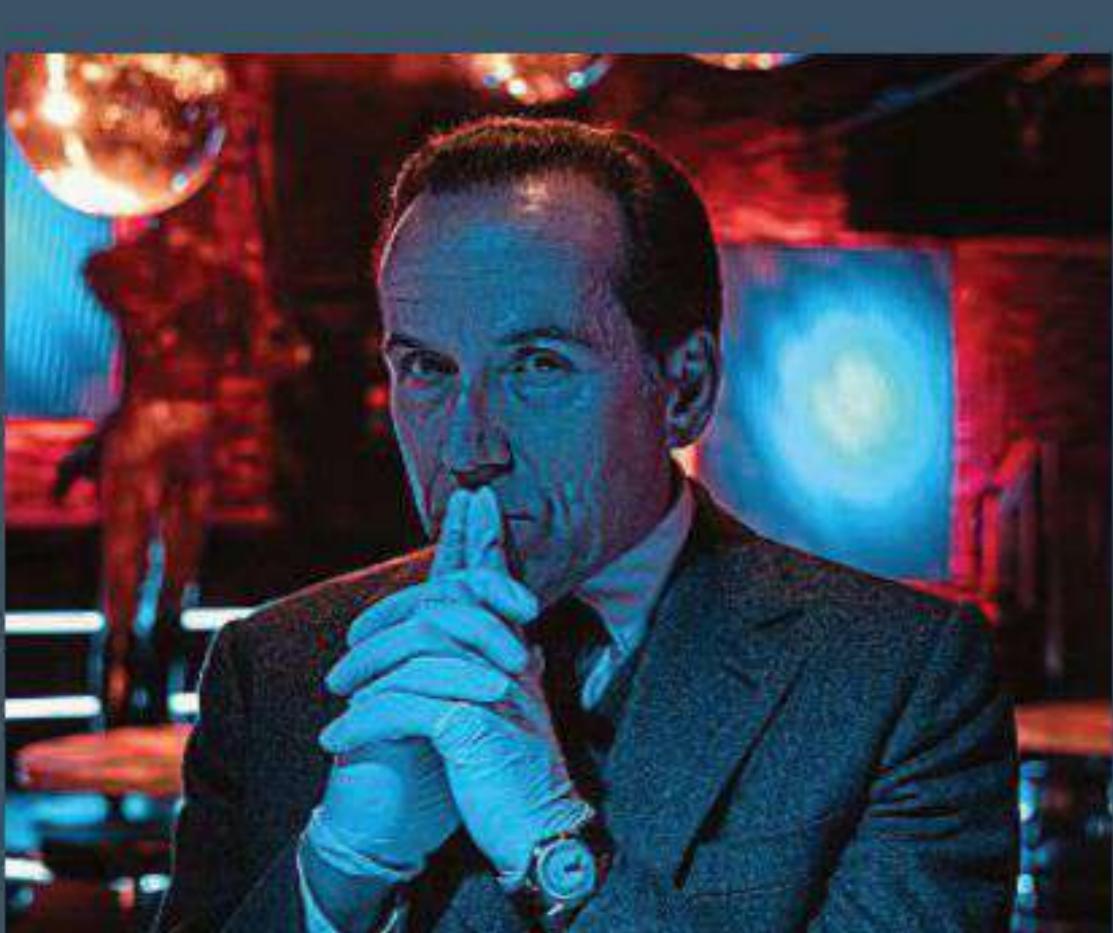
TONIGHT'S TV CHOICE



Melvin Odom are the guests offering crumbs of comfort.

NEW Later... with Jools Holland

BBC4, 10.25pm
Think Later and you picture eclectic rather than chart-topper. But this series of compilations kicks off with a pop-star special as Dua Lipa, Harry Styles, Adele, Ed Sheeran and more attempt to raise their cred factor by mixing with the muso types.



Cerebral crime-cracker: Ben Miller

NEW Professor T ITV, 9pm
Adapting Belgian TV hits for British audiences is all the rage - Sharon Horgan's *Bad Sisters*, dark thriller *The Rising on Sky* - but this quirky crime show, which makes the most of Ben Miller's gift for distracted bemusement, was ahead of the curve. This second series has Miller's cerebral crime-cracker locked in battle with his mother once more, played with panache by the magnificent Frances de la Tour.

NEW The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice C4, 8pm
You can't beat a nice bit of cake if you need to lift the spirits, so here's Jo Brand to try - but probably fail - to sweeten the pill for whoever was first to get booted out of *Bake Off*. Harry Hill, Roisin Conaty and

Gutsy Apple TV+
They're not exactly French and Saunders but you do get mother and daughter double-act Hillary and Chelsea Clinton being game for a laugh in this curious on-the-road travelogue (the first episode saw them having tea with Amy Schumer). They track down some of the 'gutsy' women featured in their best-selling book. It's a broad church, ranging from Gloria Steinem to Kim Kardashian. **KEITH WATSON**

METROSCOPE by Patrick Arundell

Aries

Mar 21 - Apr 20

If you have any illusions about anything, it's time to put them to the test. This is wise, as you may be on the verge of signing up for something that isn't all it seems. Plus, as Venus angles towards Mars, you might have a logical take on something that requires you to use your intuition.

Taurus

Apr 21 - May 21

Annoyed with yourself about something? The Moon's angle with Mercury retro could spotlight feelings of failure when they may not be warranted. Whatever it's about, take it in your stride and vow to do better today.

Gemini

May 22 - Jun 21

With chatty Mercury in your leisure zone you may be curious about many things but a past hobby could capture your attention. It can also be a way to meet people you really chime with. Don't be too quick off the mark to sign an agreement associated with work or domestic matters.

Cancer

Jun 22 - Jul 23

A serious talk can lead to you and another becoming an item. Venus's edgy angle with Mars hints you may be fond of someone who seems like a soul mate. Entangled? There's great potential to rekindle that spark in your relationship, especially if you can escape the rat-race for a break.

Leo

Jul 24 - Aug 23

Keen to invest in a holistic lifestyle? It could be something you're keen to make happen. And the first port of call may be the kitchen. You might be ready to donate any food that isn't on your list of healthy items. Follow this with a trip to your local farmer's market or health shop.

Virgo

Aug 24 - Sep 23

Perceptions may be skewed as the Sun opposes dreamy Neptune across your relationship axis. This means you might hear someone's words but what they say could be a pale resemblance of the truth. You may be better to leave any important conversations for another couple of days.

Pisces

Feb 20 - Mar 20

Misunderstandings could blight the day, as no matter how careful you are about speaking clearly, someone is bound to misinterpret what you say. And it's just as well to take everything you hear with a pinch of salt, as not all of it is reliable.



To order your unique personal horoscope based on your time, date and place of birth, visit patrickarundell.com

Elizabeth II  1926-2022

METROTALK



Tiara: At the Scottish Royal Variety Show in Glasgow's Alhambra Theatre, 1958

I got mucky hands a wall to see her

■ I am a normal, working-class man. You never realise what you have until it's gone. I wept when I heard the news of your passing but I reflect on your sense of purpose and the comfort of you just being my Queen. I will miss you deeply. Thank you.

Les Slocombe

■ I remember climbing up the outside of a grimy, coal-black Kemsley House in Hope Street, Glasgow, in 1958 so that I could see the Queen and Prince Phillip emerge from Central Station on their visit to Scotland. It took me hours to wash the dirt from my hands.

Edward Patrick

the Queen on numerous occasions along with my late husband, who was a serving officer in the Royal Air Force for 38 years. She was always gracious, kind and had an uncanny way of remembering people she met. God bless and may she rest in peace.

Wendy A Galley

■ Queen Elizabeth II was an amazing queen. She served this country and did so until the end. She will always be in my heart and my thoughts go to King Charles III, who I had the privilege of meeting years ago in my home town. I will never forget the time he told his secretary, 'I am taking a photo with this man and I don't care'. God save the King. RIP Queen Elizabeth.

James Stewart

■ My father, Tom Mullen, was in the Royal Navy in your service from the age of 14 as a boy sailor until he retired at the age of 65. He was a loyal and devoted Lt Commander whose dream was to become a Gunnery Officer, which he surpassed. In the 1970s, he even taught the then Prince of Wales gunnery at the naval base Cambridge, near Plymouth. Him and my mother, Emily, and my brother, Thomas, and I have always known you as my father's boss, I hope you and Prince Philip get to meet them.

June Wainwright

■ You gave my Grandad Newby the great honour of inviting him to one of your garden parties for his service for St John Ambulance. This was such an amazing honour for a man who was a miner from a small mining village in the north east. Good night and God bless you, Your Majesty.

Helen Holmes, Durham

■ I have read the many messages that say it all so I'm not sure what else I can add. But I will say this. I came to the UK when I was five years of age and now, at 54, all I can say is, thank you, Ma'am, for letting me and my family live here, giving us peace, love and joy, giving us the opportunity to better ourselves with you by our side to guide us. We will miss you but you will always live in our memories.

Kalpesh Joshi

■ I played for you twice at Balmoral as part of the Army Cadet Force Pipes and Drums. I remember the colonel introducing me incorrectly to you as a piper and I corrected him nervously. 'Actually, I'm a drummer, sir.' I'm sure I saw you smile. You had nothing but kind things to say about the performance. A memory I will cherish forever. RIP.

Lloyd Deans

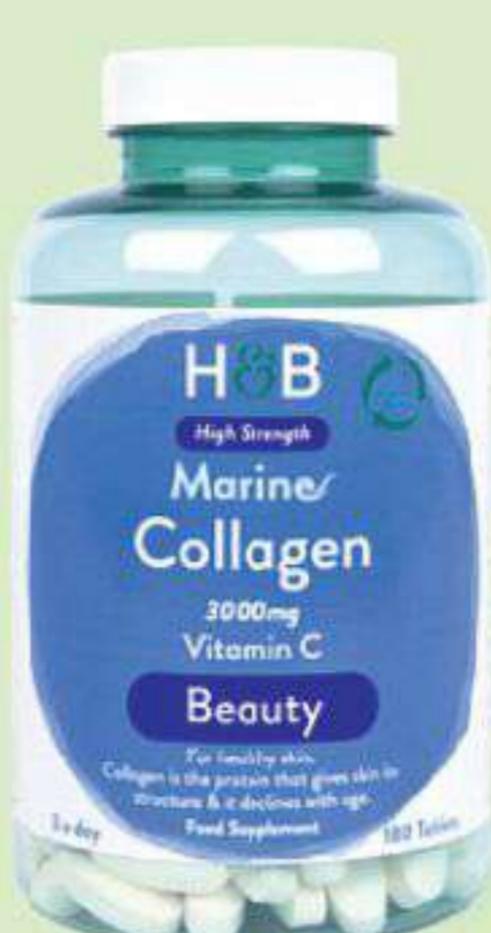
■ Thank you for your service. You have been a great monarch and shown the world how humanity should be. You have taught me the true nature of power and the responsibility that comes



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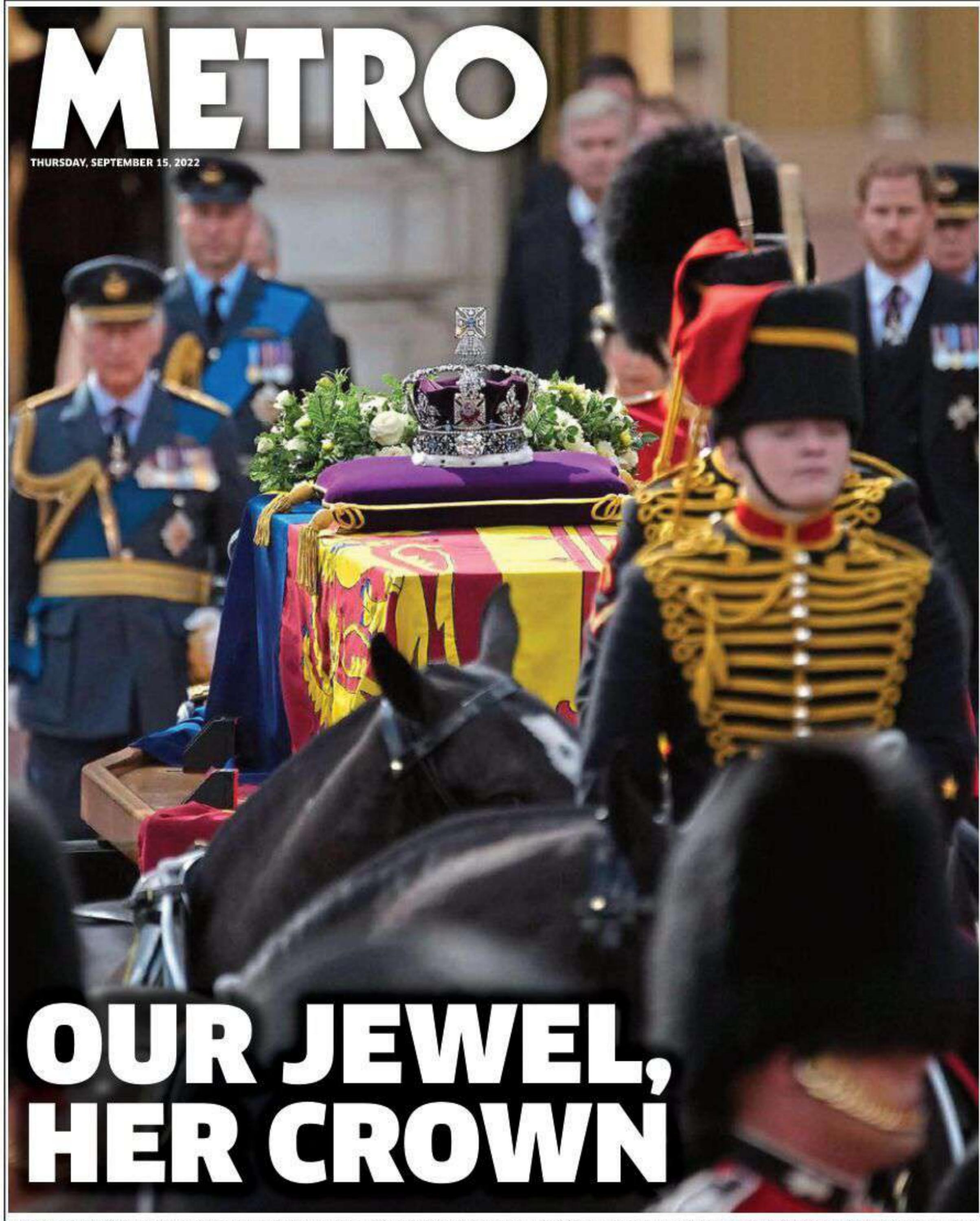


PAYS TRIBUTE

1926-2022  Elizabeth II

ds climbing in Glasgow

METRO



OUR JEWEL, HER CROWN

The Imperial State Crown gleams on Queen Elizabeth's coffin as King Charles, The Prince of Wales and Duke of Sussex follow her to Westminster yesterday CHRISTOPHE ENA/PA

Sombre: Yesterday's Metro showing the Queen's coffin en route to Westminster Hall

with it. May God bless your soul and grant eternal peace.

Mazhar Alam

■ A beautiful lady inside and out, with a smile never to be forgotten, who has gone over the rainbow and will be with everyone she loves. What a wonderful Queen she was.

Rebecca Clarke

■ It was a privilege to serve you as a police constable. My condolences to your family, Ma'am.

Susan Watson

■ Thank you for your lifelong service to your country. I still have the commemoration coin given to all babies at the time of your coronation. God bless you and may you rest in peace knowing that you fulfilled your duty to the very end.

Miriam Stollar

■ Your Majesty, you were an amazing individual who cared not only for your family but for the extended family of the world you took under your wing as your secondary family. You are going to be missed terribly. I cried when I heard of your passing. I felt a part of me collapse, just like when my own mother

passed three and a half years ago. The two women who were my queens have now gone to the angels in the sky above. And rightly so. Share a cuppa with my mummy, please. Sleep tight.

Vicki Gallagher

■ Ma'am, may you rest in peace. I am proud to have met and served you in the British Army, and I salute you still as you take your final journey. Thank you for all you have given us. You will be missed.

Julie Mewett

■ Although I am from America, you have touched my heart. I grew up watching you and how you served your country with such grace. You now can be with your best friend, your husband, Prince Philip. May you rest in peace and the angels keep you safe and happy.

Tammy Stevens

■ As a grade school child in Michigan, my classmates and I were spellbound watching your coronation on TV. You were the person that many little girls dreamed of being - a princess wearing a crown and beautiful dress. You will be missed but we know that you and your beloved husband are together again. God

bless you for your many years of devoted service.

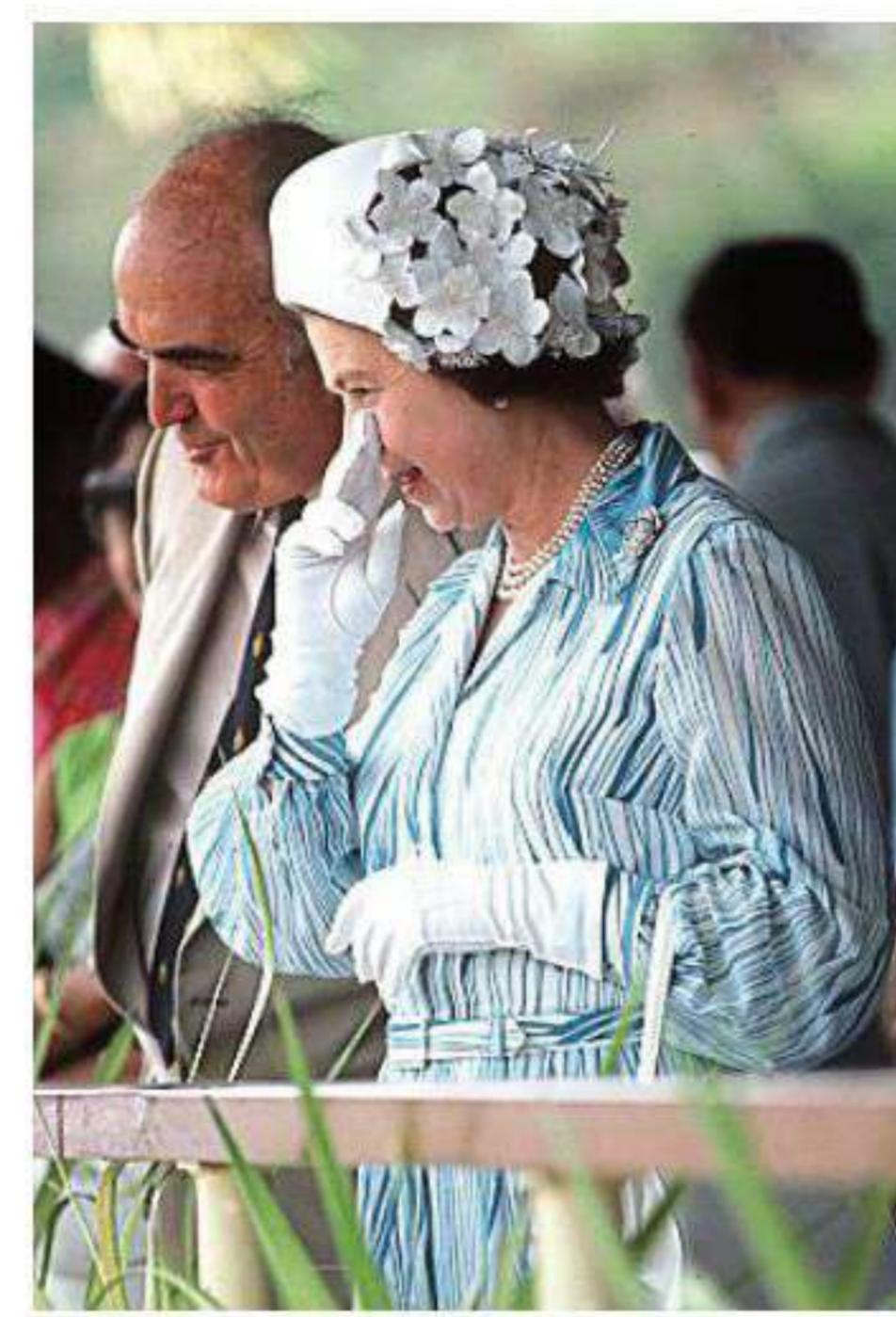
Linda

■ Our Queen, it was a pleasure to have met you a few times. I was born in Fiji Islands and was glad to have given our former Queen a gift brought back from Fiji. I worked for Chubb in St James' Street, SW1. We dealt with all your security. It was a pleasure to have worked with the Palace. You will be sorely missed by all.

Debbie Datt

■ Your Majesty, you have been a part of my life for 68 years. I remember seeing you in Sri Lanka in 1981, when my father and mother met you. My father had the privilege of showing you the Victoria Dam. We will all miss you but

Debbie Datt



Memorable trip: Visiting the Victoria Dam in Sri Lanka, 1981

will know that you now rest in peace with Philip. Thank you for your very long service to us all.

Elizabeth P Gorringe

■ It was a pleasure to meet you and play for you in my school orchestra in 2001 when you attended North Bromsgrove High School, to open our new building. Thank you for protecting, caring and all your other duties.

Gemma Shewell

■ As a Hong Konger, I witnessed the city's golden age under the Queen's reign. Her Majesty visited twice and I remember vividly how she showed her kindness and grace to the local kids in a local wet market. She will forever be loved and remembered in Hong Kong.

Vincent Chen


SRUC

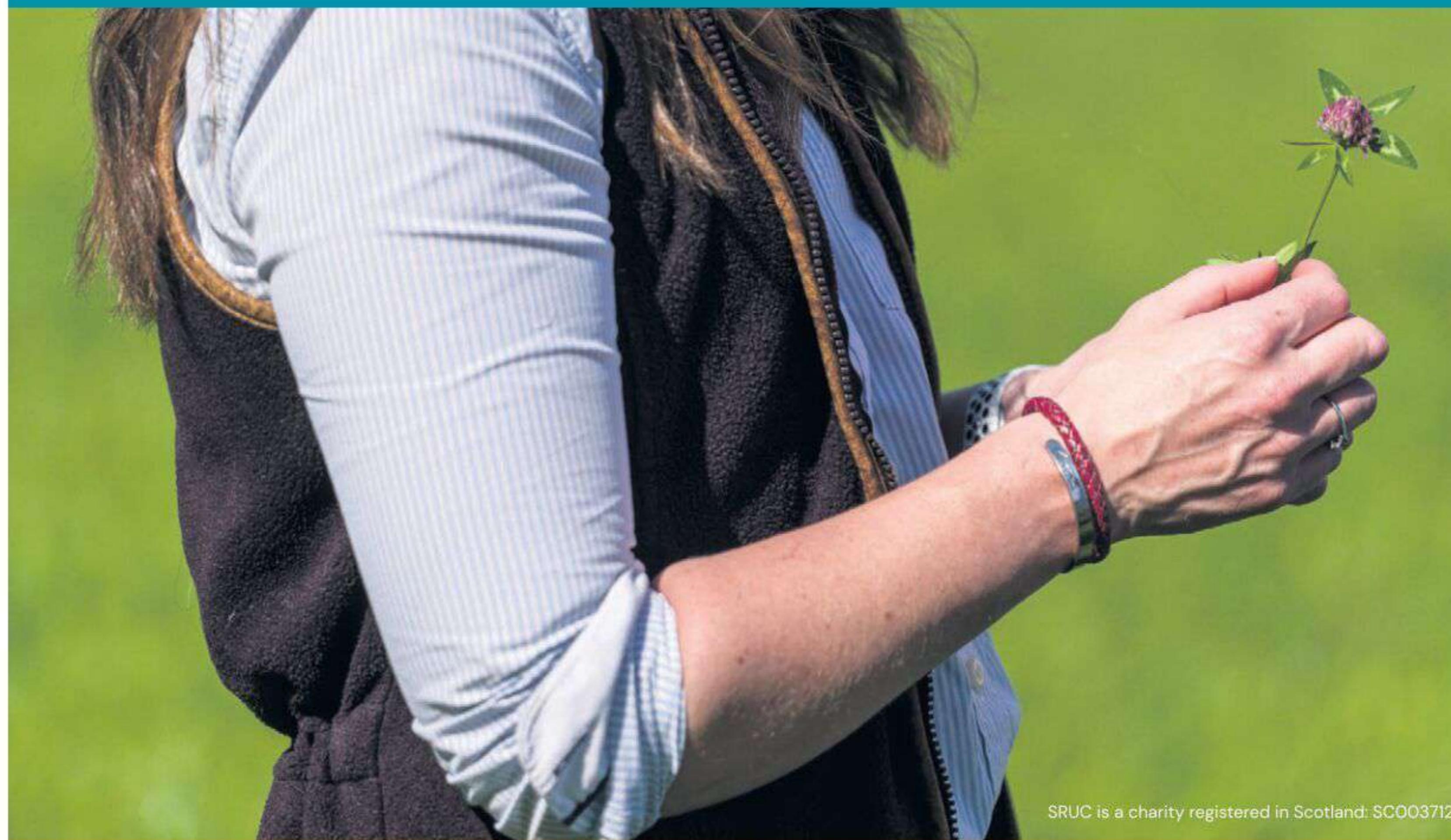
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1926-2022



Elizabeth II



By Amanda Cable

JN HIS darkest hour, King Charles III is facing his destiny at last. But the glimpses of him we've had over the last week show staggering contradictions. A man who won over the nation with his first emotional speech as monarch, paying tribute to his 'Darling Mama'. But also a man who, days later, threw down his

But what kind of monarch will Charles be?

fountain pen in irritation before being consoled by a steady Camilla as he complained 'I can't bear it' – all in the manner more befitting of a churlish teenager than a 73-year-old head of state.

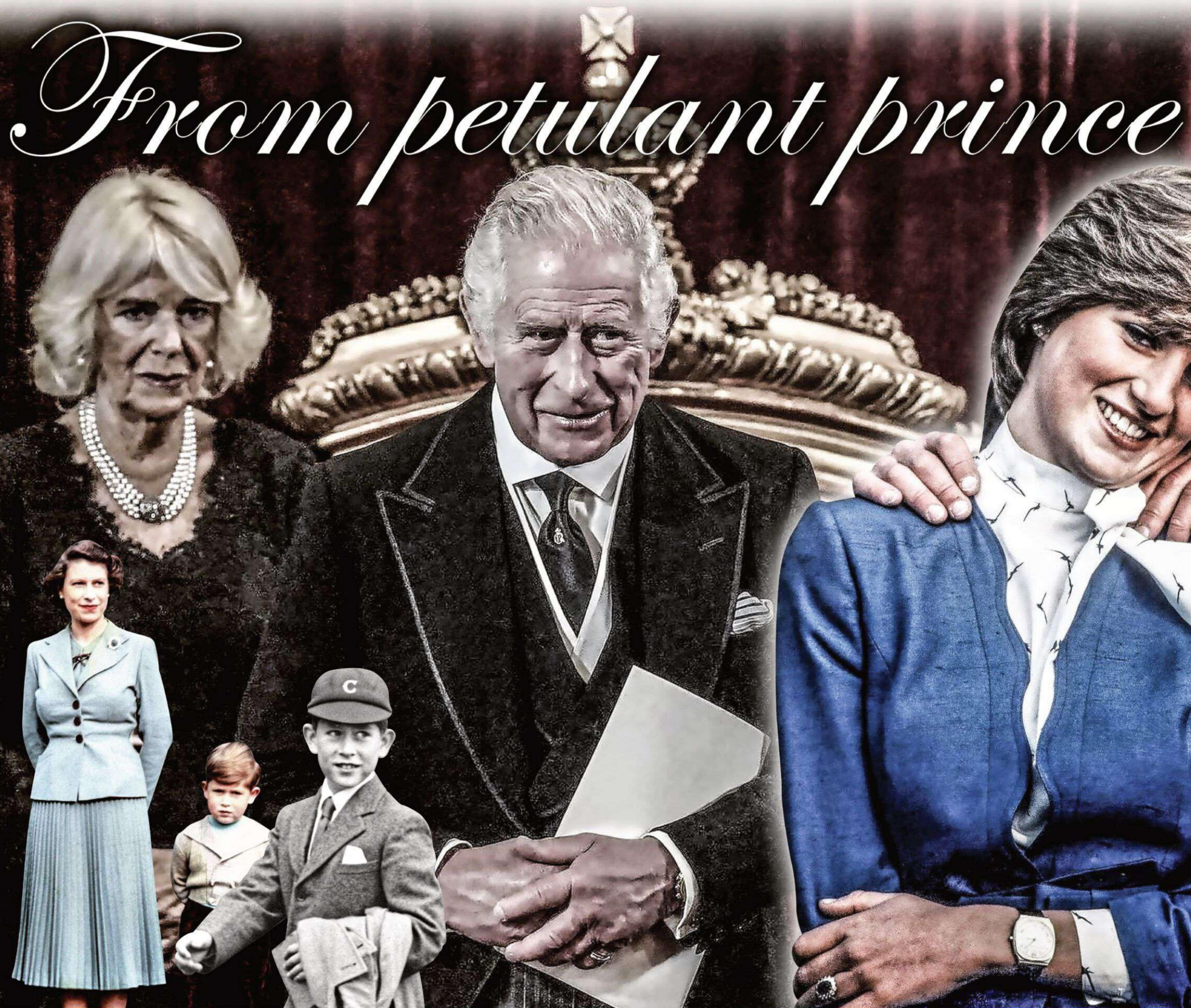
So who exactly is our new King.

What can we expect from his reign – and what has shaped him? From the lonely boy clutching his teddy bear as he set off to boarding school at the age of eight to the Cambridge

student who shone in the Footlights and the caring King who has stepped out of the shadows, we look to our future under a very different sovereign.

From petulant prince to modern monarch **Page 26-27**

Elizabeth II  1926-2022



THE setting was a London society children's party in the 1950s, with tables groaning under sugar sandwiches, bananas (a rare postwar treat) and nannies chatting as their charges donned paper hats and blew streamers.

In the corner, red-faced and indignant, stood a little boy in corduroy shorts - the only boy in the room wearing the heavy, old-fashioned material. That child was Prince Charles, who was never to forget the humiliation and isolation he felt that day - blaming his father, Prince Philip, for forcing him to wear those shorts.

It wasn't just the corduroy he hated - but the sense of being different. Far from the pampered princes of the past, our

Cap fits: The young Charles endured an unhappy time at Cheam School

new king endured an unhappy childhood that haunted him for years but fuelled his desire to right all wrongs and made him very much the champion of the underdog.

Indeed, his doting grandmother, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, would proudly say that Charles always picked the weakest person for his team because he knew what it was like to be overlooked.

Born at Buckingham Palace on November 14, 1948, Charles spent much time with his grandmother, who allowed him to sit on her bed and play with her lipsticks.

Aged eight, he was sent to board at Cheam School in Berkshire. He clutched his teddy bear, cried himself to sleep nightly and wrote long letters to his parents twice a week - the start of his lifelong

interest in letter writing. Other pupils called him 'fatty' and 'jug ears'. Then when Philip sent him to his old school, Gordonstoun - where cold showers were designed to toughen up pupils - his misery was compounded.

Charles described it as a 'prison sentence'. In 1963, on a school trip, he ordered a cherry brandy in a pub - sparking headlines and leading to the sacking of his only friend - his police bodyguard. Fellow pupil Ross Benson later recalled: 'He was crushingly lonely for most of his time there. The wonder is that he survived with his sanity intact.'

At the age of 17, Charles enjoyed two terms at Timbertop School in Geelong, Australia, and a year later he arrived at Trinity College, Cambridge.

In 1970, he met society girl Camilla Shand. Twinkly eyed, jumping behind

bushes for a sneaky cigarette and with a drink often clenched in one hand, she dazzled Charles. But she was an unsuitable match, due to her 'racy' past. Instead, as Charles mourned the loss of his great-uncle and mentor Lord Mountbatten, killed by an IRA bomb in August 27, 1979, he met 19-year-old Lady Diana Spencer.

He proposed to her six months later after - according to one source - just 13 meetings. About 750 million people worldwide watched the marriage at St Paul's Cathedral on July 29, 1981 - a wedding dubbed 'the last great state event of the 20th century' by Debrett's.

The early years of their marriage were happy, and with the birth of William in June, 1982, followed by Harry in September, 1984, Charles became an attentive father, with one onlooker recalling the affectionate

1926-2022  Elizabeth II

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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to modern monarch

hugs they shared, even as the boys became teenagers.

But as their marriage broke down, Charles sought solace with long-term love Camilla. In 1992, the princess collaborated with author Andrew Morton for his explosive biography *Diana, Her True Story*, with a devastating television appearance on *Panorama* in November, 1995, hastening the couple's divorce.

After Diana's death in a car crash in Paris on August 31, 1997, Charles' fatherly instincts clicked in. Woken in the early hours with the news while holidaying in Balmoral with his sons, he insisted William and Harry be allowed to sleep before they heard the terrible news.

So how have the years since the tragedy shaped the King? Camilla's down-to-earth charm eventually won

over William and Harry, and after the couple married in April, 2005, she found her own way of dealing with the prince. If he threw a tantrum, she'd simply remove herself to her home in Gloucestershire for several days – giving Charles the space for reflection.

The couple adopted rescue Jack Russells – Charles and the underdogs again – and when one disappeared, he was inconsolable.

Former royal reporter Antonella Lazzari recalls seeing Charles meet the public. 'His schedule is bruising but he always makes time for people,' she says. 'And when he greets you, his eyes twinkle and he really listens with genuine interest to what you have to say. Charles has a way of making someone feel they are the only person in a room.'

King Charles never eats lunch and

the rumour was always that he didn't drink. But Lazzari says, 'I remember a 16-year-old footman who had just started work, holding a tray with a cup of Earl Grey tea.'

When Charles arrived and saw the drink, he asked, 'What's this?' The young lad looked terrified but Charles quickly put him at ease by joking, 'I was rather hoping it would be Pimm's!'

Meanwhile, how forward-thinking King Charles turned out to be. Despite ridicule, from the 1970s onwards, his views on organic produce, 'ugly' architecture and pollution have proved prescient. He launched the Prince's Trust, which has helped more than a million youngsters to date, after leaving the navy in 1976.

But his reign will see a far more hands-on monarch. The young boy who once wrote lonely letters home from

school never stopped writing and it's known from his 'black spider memos' to government ministers that he dabbles in politics far more than his mother ever did.

Much has been written about Charles' rather distant relationship with the Queen. But he craved her love, and in recent years they became closer than ever. The little prince whose father once wanted to toughen up proved indeed to be a man of steel.

When Harry and Meghan announced Megxit, Charles took a firm line alongside the Queen. The same applied to the Duke of York – disgraced through his friendship with Jeffrey Epstein.

Last week, Charles' tearful nine-minute address to the nation as king, just one day after he sat at his mother's deathbed, hit exactly the right note. Sensitive, loving, humble and clearly

deeply moved, it proved to be a PR masterclass. But by the same token, he was visibly irritated with a leaking fountain pen days later – with calm Camilla stepping in to defuse the awkward situation.

A king of hearts, or a man of ill-temper? More likely a man exhausted by grief and bowed by the weight of his new role.

At a time when most people are enjoying retirement, Charles will be working throughout each day, late into the night. But he'll enjoy evening drinks with Queen Consort Camilla, and sit on their sofa alongside their beloved dogs.

The boy who once prayed for a normal life has stepped into an extraordinary new role as monarch – but calm and sensible Camilla, his own 'strength and stay', will prove his greatest weapon.

WEEKEND



The parties at the palace

GETTY/DAN KITWOOD

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THOMAS STICHBURY
RECOUNTS HOW THE JUBILEES WERE SOME OF THE BIGGEST PARTIES OF THE PAST 70 YEARS

VERY few people in the world could throw a party quite like Queen Elizabeth II. And as excuses for a bit of a shindig go, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Jubilees must rank pretty highly. Here we look at how some of the biggest names on earth were honoured to perform for Her Majesty...

UNDER PRESSURE
Queen legend Brian May performed on the roof of Buckingham Palace for the royal's Golden Jubilee celebrations.

Hitting a new high (literally), the rocker delivered a rollicking version of the national anthem. Was he worried about biting the dust?

'The feeling of being up there was of pure terror,' he recalls. 'Not because of the height, but because the possibility of making a fool

of myself was so enormous. People say, "Were you scared of falling off?" No, I was scared of being the guy who f***ed it up on top of Buckingham Palace with a billion people watching! Even scarier, Brian didn't know if Her Majesty was 'that impressed at the time'. We're sure she thought you were frightfully good, Bri.'

A SING SONG
Take That's Gary Barlow really did Shine bright when he oversaw the dazzling Diamond Jubilee Concert, in honour of the Queen's 60th year on the throne. Gazza and musical maestro Andrew Lloyd Webber even penned an original song, called Sing, for the

occasion, which HM is said to have added to her playlist of favourite ditties.

Also on the line-up were the likes of Stevie Wonder, Paul McCartney and Madness's Suggs – who got up to all sorts of mischief at the Palace.

'I stole a roll of toilet paper,' he admits. Talk about being, ahem, loo-se lipped...

CHAIN REACTION
Diana Ross reigned Supreme at the Platinum Party At The Palace earlier this summer, wowing the crowds with her catalogue of classics, including the likes of Chain Reaction, Thank You and Ain't No Mountain High Enough.

Other highlights were the performances of Sir Elton John – whose pre-recorded version of Your Song was projected onto the walls of the palace – Andrea Bocelli and Sam Ryder, fresh from his table-turning Eurovision success.

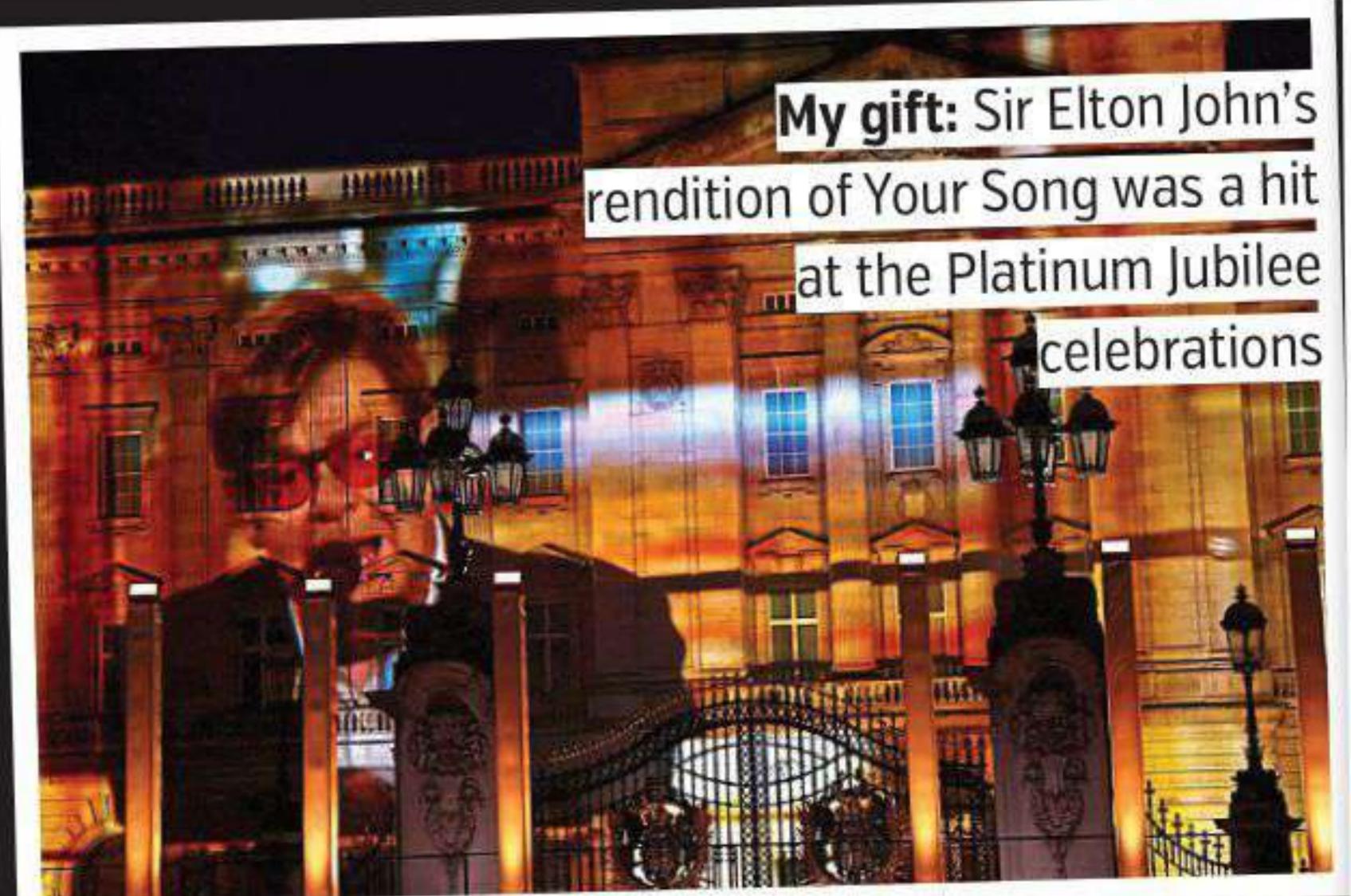
Although the Queen wasn't able to attend the concert in person, we're told she watched the gig on the telly at home at Windsor Castle. And there's no way she would have found it a turn-off.



35 YEARS OF SONGS FROM DEACON BLUE AND BEYOND

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Variety and the Spices...

live

IT WASN'T JUST HER MAJESTY'S JUBILEES THAT MADE FOR UNFORGETTABLE, STAR-STUDDED OCCASIONS

STARS of stage and screen have delighted in performing for the Queen over the course of her 70-year reign. In that time, she's witnessed everything from the peak of Girl Power to a lorra lorra laughs with cheeky Cilla Black, and much more between, at her Royal Variety Performances. Here we look at a few highlights from over the years...

2001

A real Surprise Surprise was in store when Cilla Black sang Gotta Have A Gimmick, from the musical Gypsy. Introduced on stage by Lily Savage, aka Paul O'Grady, Cilla wiggled on wearing a black basque, featuring strategically placed, heart-shaped lights and fishnet tights. Towards the end of the number, 58-year-old Cilla then bent over to reveal another neon heart on her bottom. Later on, the stars of Broadway's The Full Monty performed a risqué routine – however, perfect timing and a trick of lighting made sure Ma'am didn't see their, ahem, crown jewels.



2005

Shirley Bassey earned her licence to thrill, or rather, trill, when she belted out a 24-carat rendition of James Bond theme Goldfinger. The Welsh lung-buster was joined on the bill, at the Cardiff Millennium Centre, by Katherine Jenkins, Charlotte Church and Will Young. But it was comedian Catherine Tate, right, who was in danger of hitting a bum note. Looking at the royal box, an in-character Tate asked: 'Is one bothered? Is one's face bothered?' She then added: 'Who's looking after the corgis?' Her Majesty politely smiled, while the Duke of Edinburgh chuckled. Phew.



2009

The monarch invited an up-and-coming Lady Gaga to play at the Blackpool Opera House for the 2009 Royal Variety Performance. Although the Queen wasn't spotted with her 'claw' in the air, the pop star received the royal stamp of approval for passionately performing her song, Speechless, while tickling the ivories on a piano suspended in mid-air. The pair met afterwards, with Gaga opting to 'dress like a queen' in a red latex Elizabethan gown. Fortunately, Her Majesty was a pro at keeping a Poker Face...

THOMAS STICHBURY



We will rock you:
Brian May atop
Buckingham Palace
in 2002



1997

Spicing up her life, the Queen met the Spice Girls at London Victoria Palace, where Ginger, Scary, Sporty, Posh and Baby delivered a double-whammy performance of hits Too Much and Who Do You Think You Are? The encounter clearly left an impression on Geri Horner (formerly Halliwell) who said of Her Majesty: 'She was very sweet, very engaging and very complimentary about our performance. She was encouraging – it felt like she actually liked what we were about.' Girl Power, indeed.



Euro star: Sam Ryder
earlier this year



Act of Grace: Grace
Jones in 2012



WEEKEND



CELTIC THE MUSICAL

If you love the Bhoys and fancy adding a new dimension to your experiences with them, this could be the show for you. It will take fans on an emotional journey that begins with the founding of the club by Brother Walfrid to its current life, taking in some of the most memorable moments along the way. Until Sep 24, SEC Armadillo, Glasgow, sec.co.uk

COPPÉLIA

After winning praise and plaudits at the Edinburgh International Festival, Scottish Ballet's contemporary reworking of the classic story into a study of artificial intelligence begins its Scottish tour (which runs until Oct 8). Thu-Sep 24, Theatre Royal Glasgow, scottishballet.co.uk



ANDY ROSS

ON YOUR DOORSTEP THIS WEEK

BY ASHLEY DAVIES

WIGTOWN BOOK FESTIVAL

There's nothing quite like this marvellous festival, which takes place in Scotland's National Book Town in one of the prettiest parts of the country, with appearances from Edinburgh Makar Hannah Lavery, Lauren Child, John Boyne, and many others. Until Oct 2 Various venues Wigtown, Dumfries and Galloway wigtownbookfestival.com



ED GAMBLE ELECTRIC

As co-host of the immensely popular Off Men podcast, past winner of Taskmaster, Great British Menu judge and, now, one of the new rotating co-hosts of Pointless, Ed has an awful lot on his plate right now. So you'd be wise to grab this chance to see him doing live stand-up while you can. Sun, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow edgamble.co.uk

ISY SUTTIE: JACKPOT

Isy (who played Dobby on Peep Show) used to love finding ways of making her life more exciting, and always sought out people with the same cravings. In her much-anticipated return to stand-up, she talks about how to chase thrills now that she has parenting responsibilities and a husband who doesn't like surprises. Wednesday, The Stand, Edinburgh, thestand.co.uk

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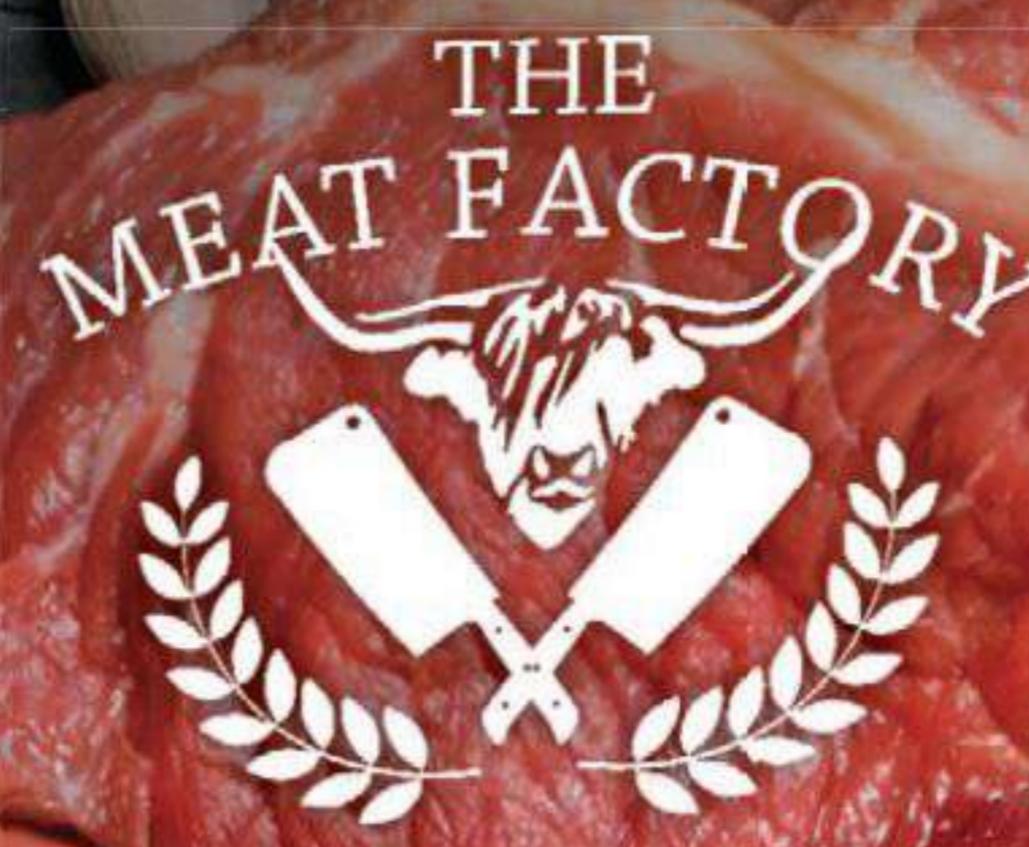
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- 400g Chicken Strips 5%
- 4 x 110g Low Fat Beef Burgers 5%
- 4 Low Fat Square Slice 5%

FAMILY PACK £46

7 ITEMS

- 2LB Roasting Joint - choice from Beef, Pork Loin, Ham
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- 4 x Chicken Fillets 5%
- 454g Beef or Chicken Strips 5%
- 454g Lean Beef Mince 5%
- 4 x 110g Angus Beef Burgers 5%

FAMILY BREAKFAST PACK £10

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- 6 x Steak Square Slice
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- 6 Potato Scones
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Low Fat slice £1.25 each extra

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- 2Kg Chicken Fillets 5%
- 4 x 170g Bistro Rump Steaks 5%
- 454g Lean Mince 5%
- 454g Lean Diced Beef 5%
- 6 Mini Chicken or Beef Kebabs 5%
- 4 x 110g Low Fat Beef Burgers 5%
- 12 Free Range Eggs

ULTIMATE SLIMMERS PACK £82

15 ITEMS

- 1Kg Beef or Pork Roasting Joint
- 4 x 170g Bistro Rump Steaks
- 500g Bistro Rump Strips
- 4 x 100g Low Fat Beef Olives
- 500g Extra Lean Diced Beef
- 500g Extra Lean Mince
- 500g Raw Beef Ham
- 4 x 100g Low Fat Beef Burgers
- 10 Low Fat Square Slice
- 8 x 85g Pork Medallions
- 4 x 200g Chicken Fillets
- 500g Chicken Goujons
- 500g Chicken Strips
- 500g Diced Chicken
- 4 x 100g Chicken Burgers

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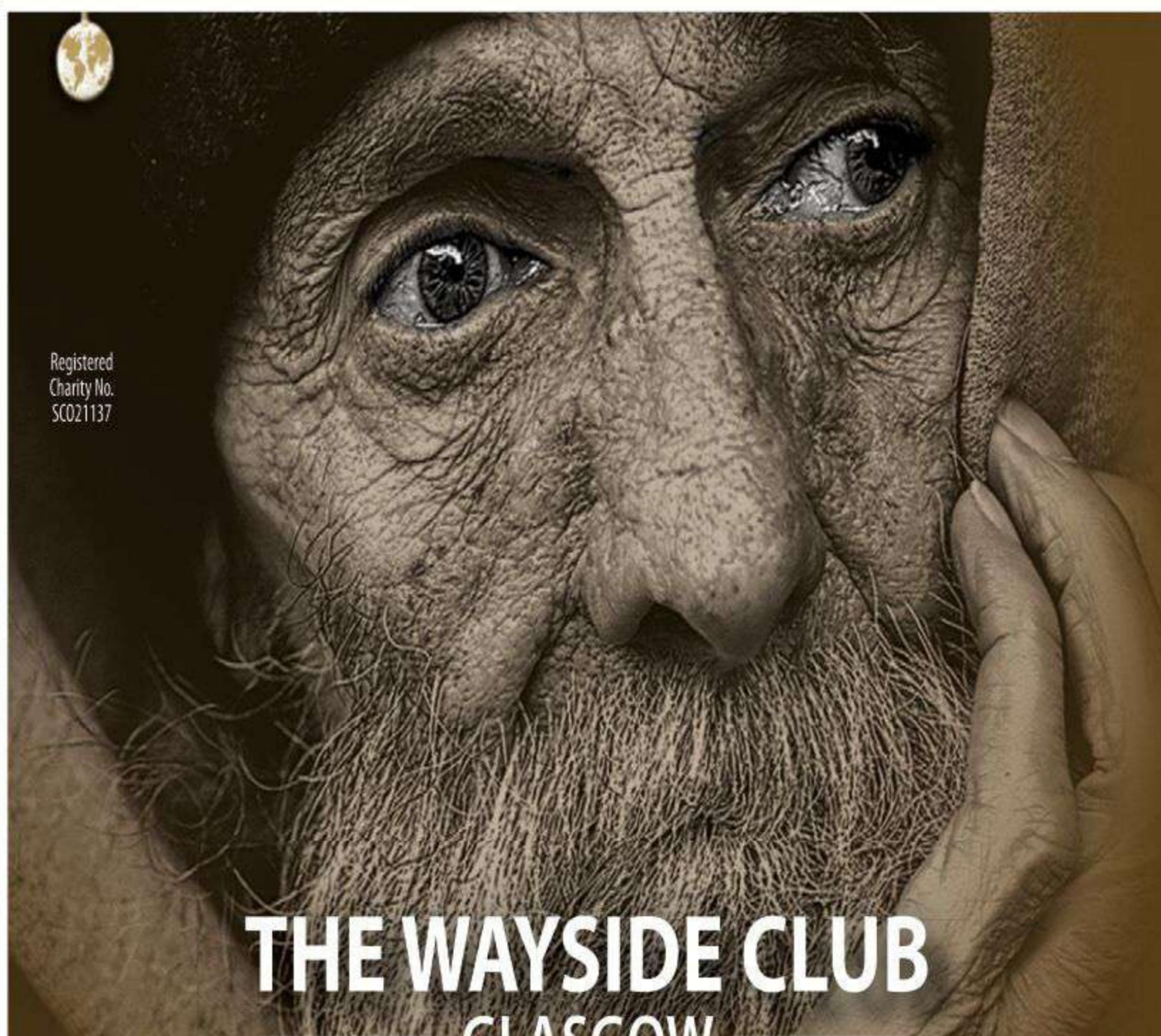
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Public & Legal Notices

Restoration Petition
EDI-B1/155-22

EILEANBAN01 LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that in a Petition by Eileanban01 Limited craving the Court to order the name of Eileanban01 Limited, a Company incorporated in Scotland under registered number SC303295 and which latterly had its registered office at 64a Cumberland Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6RE, to be restored to the Register of Companies, the Sheriff of Lothian and Borders at Edinburgh by Interlocutor dated 12 September 2022 inter alia ordered any person interested, if they intend to show cause why the Petition should not be granted, to lodge answers in the hands of the Sheriff Clerk at Edinburgh within 8 days after intimation, service or advertisement.

All of which intimation is hereby given.

Kirsteen Maclean,
BTO Solicitors LLP,
48 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5HS
Agent for Petitioner

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Both these clubs went into this season looking for a big improvement on last term's failure to reach the top six, and both could argue there have been positive signs. While eighth-placed Hibs' record of two wins, two draws and two defeats with six goals scored and six conceded might not make great reading, they are only two points behind the third-placed Dons and have held both Hearts and Rangers. A victory for either side tomorrow would be a big statement to all the top-six hopefuls.

MATCH STAT TWO DRAWS AND A WIN IN THREE HOME GAMES FOR HIBS THIS SEASON



Giovanni van Bronckhorst's side have suffered three consecutive defeats but will expect to end that run against the Premiership's bottom side. Caretaker United boss Liam Fox stopped the rot with a cup win at Livingston and a draw at Motherwell and has now had a fortnight to work with his team following fixture cancellations. Fox has made clear his desire to take on the job permanently and a point here would surely make him a shoo-in.

MATCH STAT ONE UNITED WIN IN THEIR LAST EIGHT LEAGUE MEETS WITH RANGERS



Saints are sitting in the top six after three wins from six games but boss Stephen Robinson will be hoping for a reaction after shipping three goals to St Johnstone a fortnight ago. Ange Postecoglou's Celtic will be looking to continue their 100 per cent start to the season as they have racked up 25 goals in their six straight league wins. The Hoops boss is likely to freshen things up after their 1-1 draw away to Shakhtar Donetsk in the Champions League on Wednesday night.

MATCH STAT THE BUDDIES LAST DEFEATED CELTIC IN PAISLEY BACK IN MARCH 2010

PREMIER LEAGUE



One definite fallout from last weekend's full set of cancellations will be moans from managers over an increasingly congested fixture list as the season wears on. For now, Pep Guardiola is all-too-aware of the tight turnaround after City's midweek Champions League game. 'A team like Wolves is hard because of the mentality they have for many years,' he said. 'They have two weeks to prepare exactly that game.' Pep may well also have new Wolves striker Diego Costa to contend with.

MATCH STAT WOLVES CLAIMED A FIRST LEAGUE WIN IN 12 AGAINST SOUTHAMPTON



Sixers will be looking to bounce back from their miserable 2-0 defeat at Sporting Lisbon on Tuesday which saw angry boss Antonio Conte drag his players in for an earlier than planned training session on Wednesday morning after their injury-time implosion during which both goals were scored. They host a Leicester side who have taken a solitary point so far although boss Brendan Rodgers has had an extra week of preparation since the crushing 5-2 defeat at Brighton.

MATCH STAT HARRY KANE HAS SCORED 17 GOALS IN 14 LEAGUE GAMES WITH LEICESTER



The two Premiership teams with artificial pitches meet in 'El Plastico' at the Tony Macaroni Arena. Kilmarnock's return to the top flight has not started well, but that was always a possibility as their first five games were against teams that finished in the top six last season. They beat Motherwell and did well with ten men in a 1-0 defeat at Hibs last time out. Livi have also been somewhat unlucky so far this season after pushing Rangers close and losing to Well following a refereeing howler.

MATCH STAT LIVINGSTON WON THE LAST TWO CLASHES WITH LAST-MINUTE GOALS



Saints will be buoyed after their 3-0 victory over St Mirren last time out which lifted them up to ninth and above tomorrow's opponents. Midfielder David Wotherspoon and defender Tony Gallacher are doubts for Saints boss Callum Davidson who was impressed with Nicky Clark's impact on his debut against the Buddies. County have only one win in their first six games and have to hit the ground running if they have aspirations of another top-six finish like last term.

MATCH STAT TWO WINS FOR COUNTY IN THEIR THREE CLASHES WITH SAINTS LAST TERM



Loan striker Louis Moult is in line to make his Well debut second time around and the prospect of him linking up with Kevin van Veen is an exciting one for Fir Park supporters. Keeper Liam Kelly has also been named in the Scotland squad for the Nations League triple header later this month. Hearts appear to be feeling the strain of competing in European and domestic football and it remains to be seen if manager Robbie Neilson freshens things up from last night's clash in Riga.

MATCH STAT THE STEELMEN WON THE TWO FIR PARK LEAGUE MEETINGS LAST SEASON



Newcastle boss Eddie Howe enjoys a first reunion with the club where he made his name before leaving the Cherries in 2020. Whereas Howe's south-coast success was built on free-flowing attack, shoring up the defence was the first priority at the Magpies and they have already kept three clean sheets this term. Gary O'Neil has taken four points out of six as caretaker boss since Bournemouth axed Scott Parker and is staking a claim to become the fourth boss since Howe's departure.

MATCH STAT HOWE ENJOYED TWO WINS AT ST JAMES' PARK AS BOURNEMOUTH BOSS



This game has been brought forward by two hours to help police ahead of the state funeral. Thomas Partey, Emile Smith Rowe and Cedric could be back in contention for the Gunners after injury as the league leaders look to bounce back from losing 3-1 at Manchester United last time out. The Bees famously won this fixture 2-0 on the opening day of last season and Thomas Frank's side have hardly looked back since, the prolific Ivan Toney bagging a hat-trick in a 5-2 win over Leeds last time out.

MATCH STAT ONLY MAN CITY HAVE SCORED MORE THAN BEES' 15 LEAGUE GOALS THIS TERM

THE big question for Robbie Neilson ahead of Hearts' trip to Fir Park on Sunday is: Can he handle a war on two fronts? The Jumbos manager has risen to the challenge in his two previous stints at Tynecastle, lifting the club out of the second tier as champions in 2015 and 2021, before third-placed finishes the following seasons.

The first time he exited for an ill-fated spell at MK Dons but this time he appears to be home for good, at a club he served as a full-back for a decade.

But this season presents the toughest campaign of his managerial career.

Hearts were guaranteed European group-stage football when they lost the Scottish Cup final to Rangers in May after having a Premiership third-place finish in the bag.

They have possibly the third-largest war-chest of any Scottish club and fans will be seeking another top-three finish and progress in Europe.

But European qualification has been a poisoned chalice in recent years for teams outside the Old Firm, with many suffering in the league while suffering results on the continent that have been, frankly, embarrassing.

After St Johnstone lifted both domestic cups in Callum Davidson's first season as a boss, he could have been forgiven for thinking the management malarkey was a piece of cake.

Fast-forward a few months and the high of reaching Europe and decent displays in defeat against Turkish giants Galatasaray had worn off. Austrians LASK Linz ended their Europa Conference campaign while Saints' league form collapsed.

They could not buy a win for love nor money as they faced an almighty battle to preserve their Premiership status, culminating in a play-off win over Inverness as Dundee went down.

Davidson had spoken of his pride at leading his side into Europe but may have found himself agreeing with the old adage: Be careful what you wish for.

This summer, his former Scotland and Preston team-mate Graham Alexander might have felt he had a job for life at Motherwell after saving the Steelmen from the drop and then finishing fifth in his first full campaign, clinching a Conference League place in the process.

However, humiliating home and away defeats by Irish minnows Sligo Rovers – and only five wins in 2022 at the end of July – saw Alexander depart.

You could argue getting knocked out of European football was a blessing for Well, who are going great guns under Stevie Hammell.

They lacked an identity under Alexander but former left-back Hammell, who holds the post-war record of Motherwell appearances, has instilled an attacking, exciting football philosophy which is thrilling the punters after a good start to the league season – with a mouth-watering League Cup quarter-final clash with Celtic to look forward to next month.

Both Davidson and Alexander fell at the first hurdle in Europe, and Dundee United also suffered a

MATCH



similar fate this term – with the 7-0 drubbing they experienced in the second leg against AZ Alkmaar after winning 1-0 at Tannadice the catalyst for a shocking run of results that cost Jack Ross his job.

But despite Hearts losing their first European game for six years, against FC Zurich in the Europa League play-off, at least they had the parachute loaded up to drop

into the Conference League groups.

Three straight European losses, the latest a 4-0 hammering from Turkish side Basaksehir at Tynecastle in the first group game last week, have raised concerns down Gorgie way, especially as it was a third defeat in nine days, following a home League Cup exit at the hands of Kimarnock and a league loss at Livingston.

Hearts took on Riga FS last night but it remains to be seen whether



JULY EURO

and Scotland winger Robert Snodgrass, ex-St Johnstone goalkeeper Zander Clark and German midfielder Orestis Kiomourtzoglou but if Hearts are to remain the third force of Scottish football, Neilson will have to cope with the good and the bad.

Everything went the Gorgie side's way last season as every team below them went on horror runs at some point, with Aberdeen and Hibernian especially disappointing.

Neilson doesn't look as if he

will be similarly blessed this time round, with the Dons already third in Jim Goodwin's first full season in charge and Hibs showing encouraging signs under Lee Johnson.

Hearts must now recover from last night's European exertions in time for Sunday's trip to Fir Park, where they lost twice last season.

It will be an early indication as to whether the Jambos can last the pace as they bid to join the Old Firm clubs as regular performers on the big stage.

their adventure in Europe will impact on their league form.

Neilson needed a larger squad to cope with the pressures at home and abroad but disaster struck when he lost Northern Ireland striker Liam Boyce to a cruciate ligament injury and Aussie defender Kye Rowles with a foot injury in last month's 3-2 home league win over St Johnstone.

He has recruited former Leeds

PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	6	5	0	1	14	7	15
Man City	6	4	2	0	20	6	14
Tottenham	6	4	2	0	12	5	14
Brighton	6	4	1	1	11	5	13
Man Utd	6	4	0	2	8	8	12
Chelsea	6	3	1	2	8	9	10
Liverpool	6	2	3	1	15	6	9
Brentford	6	2	3	1	15	9	9
Leeds	6	2	2	2	10	10	8
Fulham	6	2	2	2	9	9	8
Newcastle	6	1	4	1	7	6	7
Southampton	6	2	1	3	7	10	7
Bournemouth	6	2	1	3	5	18	7
Wolves	6	1	3	2	3	4	6
Crystal Palace	6	1	3	2	7	9	6
Everton	6	0	4	2	4	6	4
Aston Villa	6	1	1	4	5	10	4
West Ham	6	1	1	4	3	8	4
Nottingham Forest	6	1	1	4	4	14	4
Leicester	6	0	1	5	8	16	1

FIXTURES (3PM UNLESS STATED)

Today	Aston Villa v Southampton	[8pm]	TV
	Sky Sports Main Event/Premier League		
	Nottingham Forest v Fulham	[8pm]	
Saturday	Brighton v Crystal Palace	[Postponed]	
	Newcastle v Bournemouth		
	Tottenham v Leicester	[5.30pm]	TV
	Sky Sports Main Event/Premier League		
	Wolves v Man City	[12.30pm]	TV
	BT Sport 1		
Sunday	Brentford v Arsenal	[12pm]	TV
	Sky Sports Main Event/Premier League		
	Chelsea v Liverpool	[Postponed]	
	Everton v West Ham	[2.15pm]	TV
	Sky Sports Main Event/Premier League		
	Man Utd v Leeds	[Postponed]	

CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sheff Utd	9	6	2	1	17	5	20
Norwich	9	6	1	2	15	8	19
Blackburn	9	5	0	4	11	11	15
Reading	9	5	0	4	9	14	15
Burnley	9	3	5	1	15	9	14
Sunderland	9	4	2	3	14	9	14
Bristol City	9	4	2	3	18	14	14
QPR	9	4	2	3	14	11	14
Rotherham	8	3	4	1	12	6	13
Watford	9	3	4	2	9	9	13
Wigan	8	3	4	1	9	10	13
Preston	9	2	6	1	3	2	12
Stoke	9	3	2	4	11	11	11
Birmingham	9	3	2	4	8	10	11
Cardiff	9	3	2	4	7	10	11
Blackpool	9	3	2	4	9	13	11
Hull	9	3	2	4	11	18	11
Luton	9	2	4	3	9	10	10
Millwall	9	3	1	5	9	13	10
West Brom	9	1	6	2	14	13	9
Middlesbrough	9	2	3	4	13	15	9
Swansea	9	2	3	4	7	12	9
Huddersfield	8	1	1	6	8	13	4
Coventry	6	0	2	4	7	13	2

FIXTURES (3PM UNLESS STATED)

Saturday	Birmingham v Coventry		
	Burnley v Bristol City		
	Huddersfield v Cardiff		
	Luton v Blackburn		
	Middlesbrough v Rotherham	[7.45pm]	TV
	Sky Sports Main Event/Football		
	Millwall v Blackpool		
	Norwich v West Brom		
	Preston v Sheff Utd		
	QPR v Stoke		
	Swansea v Hull	[12.30pm]	TV
	Sky Sports Main Event/Football		
	Watford v Sunderland		
	Wigan v Reading		

LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ipswich	8	6	2	0	16	4	20
Portsmouth	8	6	2	0	17	6	20
Plymouth	8	6	0	2	14	9	18
Sheff Wed	8	5	1	2	15	7	16
Bolton	8	4	2	2	10	6	14
Cambridge	8	4	1	2	12	13	13
Peterborough	8	4	0	4	14	9	12
Shrewsbury	8	3	3	2	8	8	12
Exeter	8	3	2	3	12	8	11
Wycombe	8	3	2	3	11	10	11
Barnsley	8	3	2	3	10	9	11
Fleetwood	8	2	5	1	8	7	11
Derby	8	3	2	3	7	8	11
Charlton	8	2	4	2	12	10	10
Oxford	8	3	1	4	7	8	10
Lincoln	8	2	4	2	8	11	10
Port Vale	8	2	3	3	8	11	9
Bristol Rovers	8	2	2	4	10	13	8
Cheltenham	8	2	2	4	8	11	8
Forest Green	8	2	2	4	7	16	8
Accrington	8	1	4	3	9	12	7
MK Dons	8	2	1	5	7	10	7
Morecambe	8	0	4	4	4	15	4
Burton	8	0	1	7	8	22	1

FIXTURES (3PM UNLESS STATED)

Saturday	Accrington v Cheltenham		
	Bolton v Peterborough		
	Bristol Rovers v Lincoln		
	Cambridge Utd v Barnsley		
	Derby v Wycombe		
	Exeter v Burton		
	Fleetwood v Charlton		
	Forest Green v Morecambe		
	Oxford Utd v MK Dons		
	Port Vale v Shrewsbury		
	Portsmouth v Plymouth		
	Sheff Wed v Ipswich		

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE

Saturday	Arsenal v Brighton	[7.30pm]	

</tbl

SPORT

MURRAY WARNS LATE FINISHES MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR FANS

TENNIS

ANDY MURRAY believes the growing number of late-night matches needs to be addressed after Great Britain's Davis Cup opener ended just before 1am.

Murray and Joe Salisbury narrowly lost the deciding doubles rubber with the USA in Glasgow as Rajeev Ram and Jack Sock won 5-7, 6-4, 7-5.

A number of US Open matches also went into the early hours, while it is an increasingly common scenario at some tour events.

Although a sizeable number of fans at the Emirates Arena stayed to the end, Murray said: 'It would be better if they were earlier for everyone involved. I don't think it's ideal for the fans.'

'There's probably half of the people in there at the end of the match that were there at the beginning. It's not probably because they didn't want to stay.'

If you've got children here, you can't stay with them. You've got to get a bus or train home. Can't do it. For the ball kids and things like that, it's inappropriate.

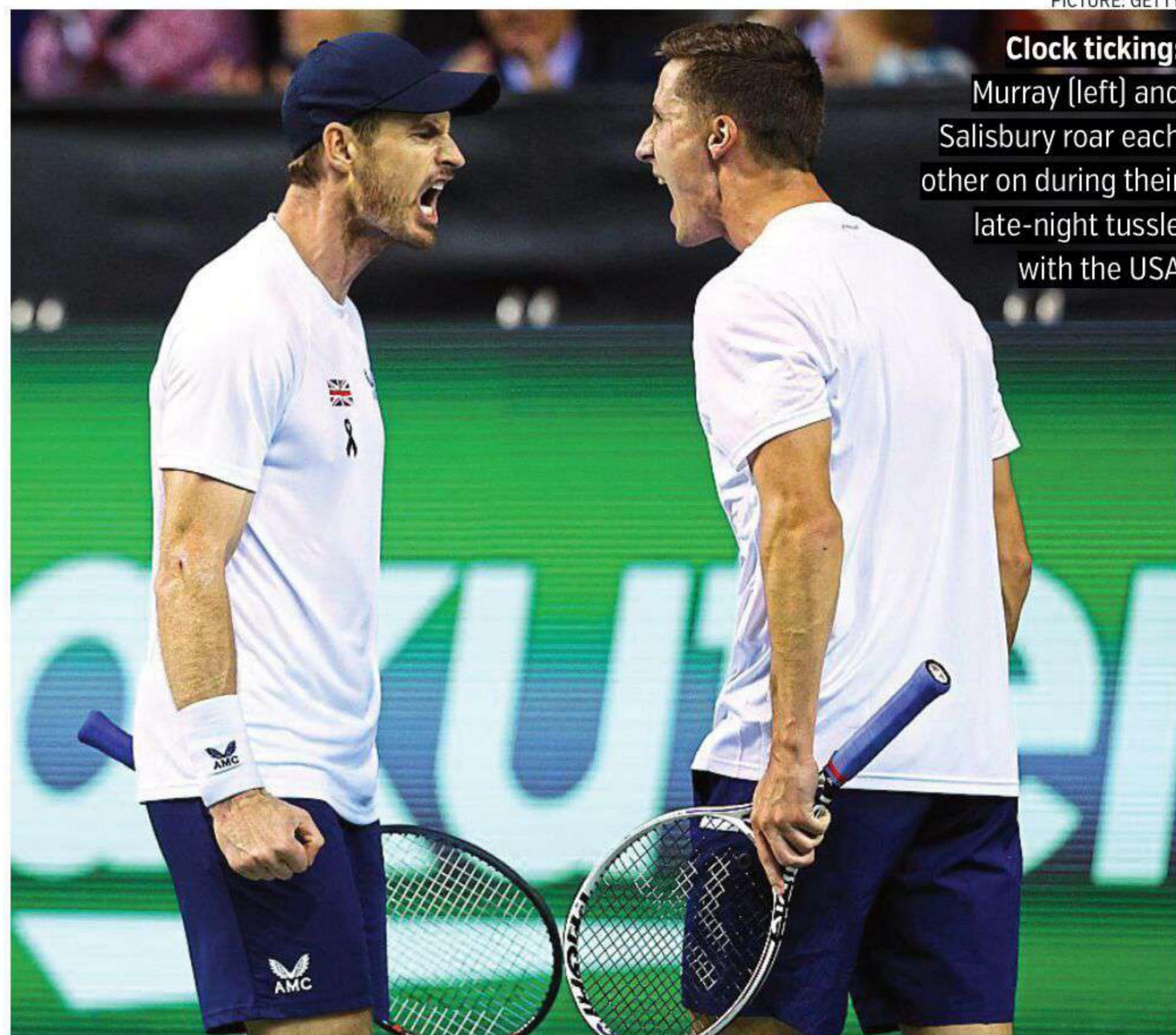
'It's not ideal for the US team to come back and play (again yesterday). It's not just here, obviously. We've seen it at the US Open even just last week.'

'It's something tennis needs to have a bit of a think about. I don't think it looks that professional.'

The tie, which featured two three-set singles matches, did not begin until 4pm, with the Lawn Tennis Association fearing fans would be put off buying tickets on a weekday if it started earlier.

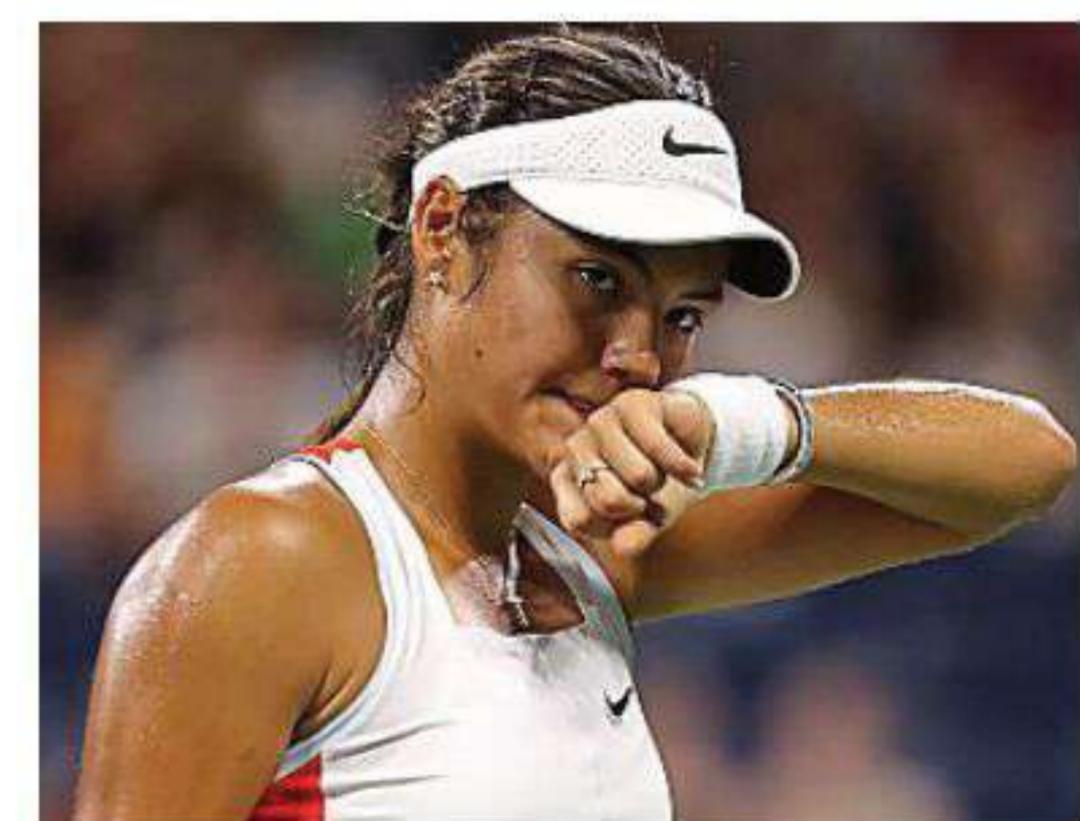
Britain are still well placed to qualify from the four-team group for the last-eight shoot-out in Spain in November.

They will be favourites to beat the Netherlands today and then Kazakhstan on Sunday.



PICTURE: GETTY

Clock ticking:
Murray (left) and
Salisbury roar each
other on during their
late-night tussle
with the USA



Emma's pain in early exit

EMMA RADUCANU suffered another injury scare during a disappointing defeat to qualifier Anna-Lena Friedsam in the Slovenia Open.

Raducanu, 19, took a wild card into the low-key event in Portoroz and was top seed but fell to a 7-5, 0-6, 6-3 defeat in the second round.

After opening up a 5-3 lead in the first set, the British No.1 lost four successive games and began to look uncomfortable in her movement.

Despite having her left leg heavily strapped, Raducanu (above) breezed through the second set only to come up short in the decider.



Respected
players: Rachel
Malcolm and
(inset) Helen
Nelson

SCOTS DUO'S LEADING ROLE

RUGBY UNION

HEAD coach Bryan Easson is delighted to have 'respected' duo Rachel Malcolm and Helen Nelson leading Scotland to the upcoming women's World Cup in New Zealand.

The 32-player squad was named with an equal split of 16 forwards and 16 backs selected as the Scots prepare to compete at the tournament for the first time in 12 years. Malcolm - skipper since 2018 - will continue in her role, supported by Nelson.

'Rachel and Helen are good leaders and very well respected by the group,' said Easson. 'They speak incredibly well on the field but also off the field.'

'We've worked hard in trying to grow leaders throughout the whole squad, but to have Rachel and Helen leading the group is fantastic.'

Emma Orr, 19, is the youngest player to be selected, while Emma Wassell is the most-capped, with 57 of the

group's combined total of 775 international appearances.

The Scots travel to New Zealand a week today, ahead of their first pool match against Wales on October 9 in Whangarei, before they face Australia on October 15 and then the reigning champions and hosts a week later.

'We are all incredibly excited for next month,' said Easson. 'It's been a long time coming and it was exactly this time last year that we were in Italy trying to qualify for the World Cup, so it's been a year in the making.'

■ NEW Glasgow coach Franco Smith has named three debutants in his starting XV for tonight's United Rugby Championship opener away to Benetton. Tight-head Lucio Sordoni, blindside flanker Sintu Manjezi and fly-half Tom Jordan will all make their first pro appearances for the Warriors as they kick off a new era following the departure of Danny Wilson.

Jos hopes tour can give Pakistan a lift

CRICKET
by JOHN PAYNE

CAPTAIN Jos Buttler hopes England's first tour of Pakistan for 17 years can help lift spirits in the wake of catastrophic flooding.

Shortly after the tourists touched down in Karachi yesterday - having been absent for so long due to historic concerns over security and terrorism - Buttler revealed his squad had contributed to the Disaster Emergency Committee flood appeal.

The donation, reportedly worth five figures and matched by the England and Wales Cricket Board, comes with more than six million people in Pakistan affected by the catastrophe, a million homes destroyed and more than 1,000 deaths.

It was an early show of solidarity after last year's late cancellation of a planned white-ball tour angered the Pakistan Cricket Board.

'We're all very excited to be here. It's great to be back as an England cricket team after a long time,' said Buttler (pic-

YORKSHIRE SETTLE WITH GALE AND PYRAH

YORKSHIRE have agreed reported six-figure settlements with former head coach Andrew Gale and former bowling coach Richard Pyrah after accepting their sackings were 'procedurally unfair'.

The pair were among 16 staff who lost their jobs in December following Azeem Rafiq's claims of institutional racism at the club.

The compensation package averts the need for an unfair dismissal tribunal. The county

tured). 'The passion Pakistani people have for cricket is fantastic.'

'We know the tough times the people of Pakistan are facing and we hope us being here can uplift that a little bit and raise spirits by seeing us play cricket. Sport has a great power to unite people and give focus to that.'

A calf injury will keep Buttler out until the latter stages of a sev-



en-match Twenty20 series, starting next Tuesday, but he is leading a 19-strong group preparing for next month's T20 World Cup in Australia.

Rested Test skipper Ben Stokes and recovering pair Chris Jordan and Liam Livingstone have not travelled.

'The main aim is to turn up to Australia fully ready to go,' said Buttler. 'Pakistan are very strong. I'm looking forward to being very battle-hardened for the World Cup after a very tough seven-match series.'

THE TIPSTER

■ DOUBLE up Aston Villa and Fulham at 21/20 and 6/4 with Betway in tonight's top-flight games.

■ PORTSMOUTH join Sheffield Wednesday, Leyton Orient and Carlisle in our Football League yankee tomorrow.

BACK SPURS TO PUSH BRENDAN TO THE BRINK

TOTTENHAM have the perfect opportunity to put their sub-par performance against Sporting Lisbon in the rear-view mirror tomorrow when Leicester roll into town.

Spurs lost for the first time this season when they crumbled in Portugal and angry manager Antonio Conte ordered the team into training early on Wednesday.

Fortunately for the Italian, the Foxes are struggling mightily and were walloped 5-2 at Brighton last time out. Spurs have scored

ten times in their last three games against Brendan Rodgers' rock-bottom side and another hefty defeat could see him sacked and possibly walking straight into the managerial vacancy with the Seagulls.

Fill your boots, with Harry Kane opening the scoring at 16/5 with Unibet, while Tottenham are 23/2 with SBK to win 3-1.

Use your winnings from Wednesday's Chelsea/Salzburg match where we landed the 5/1 on the draw and the 11/1 on 1-1.

@tipstermetro

Fox denies Terrors are in crisis as boss hunt goes on

by BRYAN YOUNG

CARETAKER Liam Fox dismissed any suggestion that Dundee United are in turmoil as he insisted that the managerial vacancy at Tannadice remains attractive despite the team's dire start to the season.

The 38-year-old has been in interim charge for the past fortnight since Jack Ross was sacked after a run of five consecutive defeats in which the Terrors conceded 24 goals and scored just one.

Fox has steadied the ship with a League Cup win at Livingston and 0-0 draw at Motherwell and scoffed at claims the club are in a mess.

'It's a good job to have,' he said. 'There's a very decent group of players here. We've had a couple of



Whoever gets the job will inherit a good club with very decent players

difficult months and everybody's entitled to their opinions about where they think the club is.

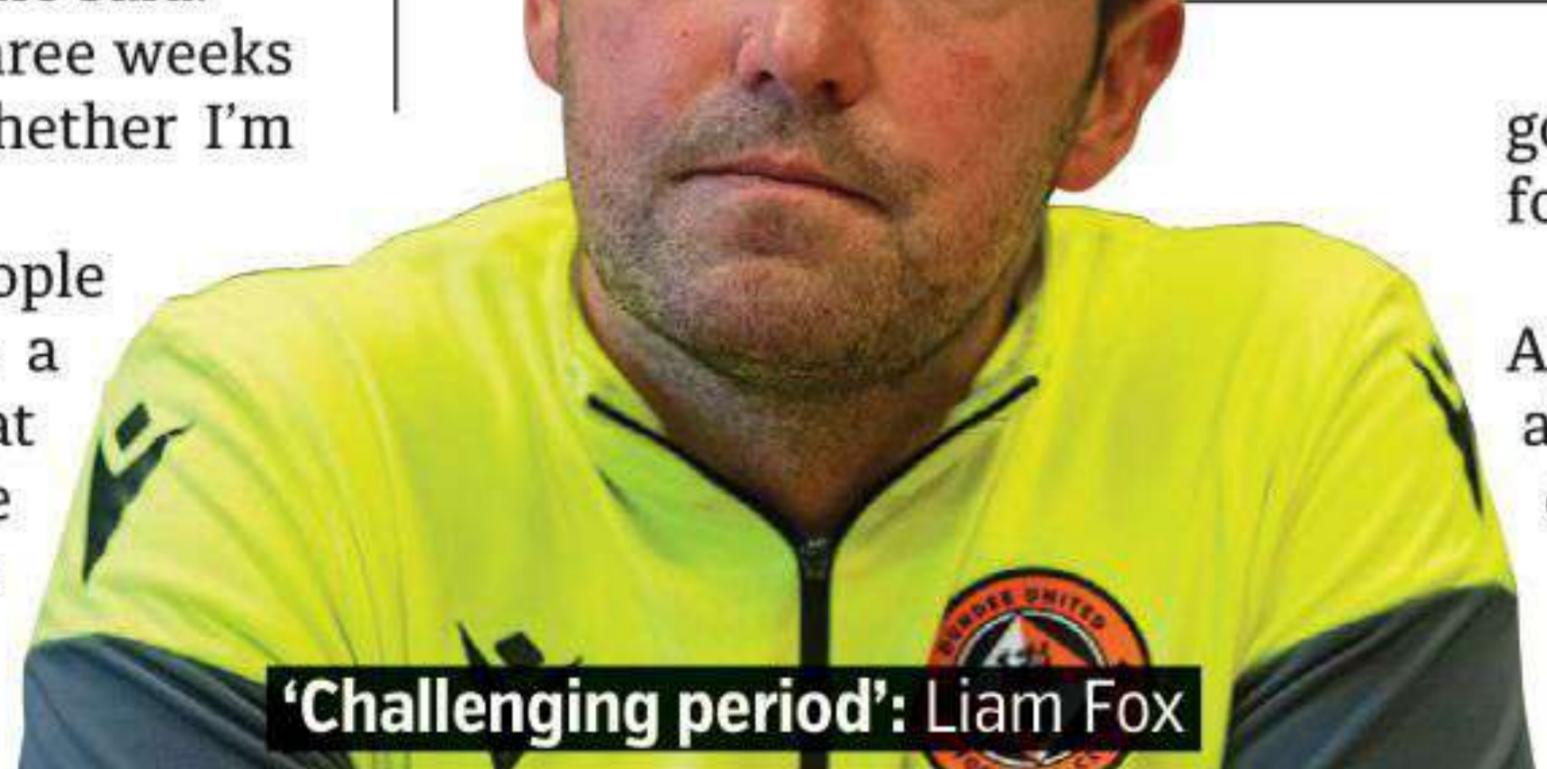
'However, it's a good opportunity for somebody.'

Fox himself is deemed the front-runner to become the permanent boss, although he gave little away ahead of tomorrow's Premiership trip to Rangers and insisted he had no update on when the club expect to confirm an appointment.

'I had a conversation with sporting director Tony Asghar on Monday and it was just a case of "carry on until told otherwise,"' he said.

'I've enjoyed the last three weeks but it's not up to me whether I'm given the opportunity.'

'That's up to the people above me. They'll make a decision based on what direction they see the club going. It's been a challenging period but I've enjoyed it and I've



'Challenging period': Liam Fox



Tribute: The Queen is honoured by Gers fans

WELL'S MOULT TO FACE HEARTS

STEVIE HAMMELL has revealed Louis Moult is set to make his Motherwell debut second time around against Hearts at Fir Park on Sunday.

The striker, who played for the Steelmen between 2015 and 2018, returned on a season-long loan from Burton earlier this month.

Moult played in a recent reserve game against Queen's Park and could get some game time against Robbie Neilson's side. Well boss Hammell said: 'He should be involved at some point at the weekend. He is ready.'

'He has had a good couple of weeks training. Louis is in a good place, as well as a few others.'

'We have used the week to progress certain players' fitness levels and give others rest but everything has been tailored towards the Hearts game.'

'Hearts have games during the week (in Europe) but have the numbers and ability to overcome that.'



Return of King Louis: Well fans are happy to see Louis Moult back at Fir Park

got a very tough game to look forward to on Saturday.'

United have lost 7-0 away to AZ Alkmaar and 9-0 at home to Celtic already this term but Fox played down any suggestion of trepidation ahead of facing Champions League contestants Rangers.

'Whenever you go to Ibrox and

Parkhead, they are always very difficult places to take points from,' he said. 'But we need to go there with a belief that there's an opportunity to go and take something.'

'You run the risk whenever you go to play against top teams that (a heavy defeat) could happen but it's about what we do.'

Celts face banner charge but Gers are in the clear

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

CELTIC face disciplinary proceedings over an anti-monarchy banner displayed during a Champions League match against Shakhtar Donetsk on Wednesday, but Rangers will not be punished for singing the national anthem before their midweek game with Napoli.

A banner in the Celtic section of the crowd in Warsaw read 'F*** the Crown' while another said 'Sorry for your loss Michael Fagan', a reference to the intruder who broke into the Queen's Buckingham Palace bedroom in 1982.

A Uefa statement read: 'Proceedings have been opened against Celtic regarding a banner displayed against Shakhtar Donetsk.'

'The Uefa disciplinary bodies will decide on the matter in due course.'

Rangers, though, will face no disciplinary action over the singing of God Save The King before their match against Napoli.

Uefa had issued instructions for the anthem

not to be sung before matches in its competitions this week, after the death of the Queen last week.

However, a rendition of the anthem followed a minute's silence at Ibrox that had been permitted by Uefa, who confirmed no action would be taken against the Govan club.

'This incident is not the subject of any Uefa disciplinary proceedings,' a spokesperson said.

Rangers fans displayed a vast silhouette of the Queen amid the colours of the Union Jack behind one of the goals before kick-off.

Meanwhile, Celtic were given a compliment from Shakhtar ahead of their Champions League double-header against Leipzig.

Shakhtar beat the Germans 4-1 last week in Leipzig and defender Valeriy Bondar said after the 1-1 midweek draw with Celtic: 'Our coach Igor Jovicevic emphasised that it would be more difficult against Celtic than it was against RB Leipzig.'

Dick Campbell



SCOTLAND'S MOST EXPERIENCED MANAGER WRITES FOR METRO

Fergie taught me a lesson on day Dons thrashed us

HAVE complete sympathy with Dundee United after their recent 9-0 stuffing by Celtic. I was on the receiving end of the same scoreline as a young coach in 1983 at Raith Rovers as I was briefly made interim manager when Gordon Wallace left. It was a real baptism of fire.

It was an exciting but daunting experience as I went up to Pittodrie to face Aberdeen in the League Cup. Alex Ferguson was the manager of the Dons and put his arm around me after the thrashing and said: 'You'll learn from that one.'

But to be fair, Aberdeen never took the mickey once. What chance did we have? They had Gordon Strachan, Alex McLeish and Willie Miller playing, all the greats. I had Keith Wright and Paul Smith, who were only 18.

I think that was the first time I had met Alex face to face but I won't forget it.

I know things haven't gone as well as they could have for Arbroath this season but the main reason for that is consistency of selection. I have not been able to field the same team twice in the league so far this season. I've lost six or



Glory days: Campbell faced Alex Ferguson's Aberdeen when he was Raith interim manager

seven players and the ones who have come in have struggled to adapt.

We were flying in the League Cup before losing to Partick Thistle in the last 16 but in the league it just hasn't happened for us.

I'm badly needing another striker and don't have a Jon Nouble or a Jack Hamilton to call on.

However, I think there are signs that things are coming together, and once we get a first win under our belts we'll be a tough team to beat.

There is no need to panic, the players don't need to get too stressed. We need to get on with it at Cappielow tomorrow although, to be fair, Morton aren't doing too bad this term.

It's onwards and upwards to sunny Greenock for the Lichies.

Dick Campbell is Business Development Manager at Avenue Scotland, one of Scotland's leading independent recruitment companies for both permanent recruitment and temporary assignments, and offering unique payroll services and strategic HR advice



SPORT

TENNIS



Off the bench:
Leon King
replaces Ryan Jack
against Napoli

Gio defends leaving out new recruits

GIOVANNI VAN BRONKHORST insists new signings have no divine right to be picked after none of his seven summer recruits started in Rangers' 3-0 defeat by Napoli on Wednesday night.

John Souttar and Tom Lawrence are out injured while Ben Davies, Rabbi Matondo, Malik Tillman, Ridvan Yilmaz and Antonio Colak were on the bench for the Champions League Group A fixture.

A second-half Matteo Politano penalty - after returning keeper Allan McGregor had saved Piotr Zielinski's re-taken spot-kick - put the Italian side ahead.

Gers' defender James Sands was sent off for a second booking after conceding the first penalty.

Giacomo Raspadori made it 2-0 with five minutes remaining and Tanguy Ndombélé bagged a third in added time to leave Rangers with no points from their first two group games before they face Liverpool in a double-header.

Asked about having none of his new faces in his side, van Bronckhorst said: 'I always pick the team who I think will win the game. I am not going to pick 11 players and say: "Okay, I'll put three

FOOTBALL
by BRYAN YOUNG

new signings in and four who have been here for ten years'.

'It doesn't work like that. I have my two eyes, I can see how their performances are, I can see how they train.'

'I don't look at new signings or players who have been here for a longer number of years, I just pick the best 11 for the game. I think the starting 11 played really well.'

Asked about defender Davies, who has made just one start since signing from Liverpool and who sat on the bench while young centre-back Leon King came on, van Bronckhorst said: 'Ben Davies? Why do I have to

talk about Ben Davies? He has been injured, he is just back in training.'

'That is why I put Leon in first. He defends really well, he defended really well in the second half against Ajax.'

The Dutchman was pleased with the performance of Alfredo Morelos, who has recently been left out of the squad through fitness and attitude issues.

He added: 'Clearly you can see he's working hard. I thought the first start for him would be in a couple of weeks.'

RANGERS REPRIEVE BUT CELTIC CHARGED BY UEFA

Page 37 »

SPORT IN BRIEF

FOOTBALL
BRENDAN RODGERS called on Leicester to show grit and bravery as they look to revive their season.

The Foxes go to Tottenham tomorrow bottom and winless in the Premier League.

Rodgers said: 'We're in a situation we haven't been in before. Results haven't gone our way but what is important is we have to be brave. Sometimes

Rodgers says Foxes must be up for a fight

'you're not quite on your game and can lose that aggression, but you can't do that.'

'You want to see that grit and passion, that's something we have here. Like in any sport, it's not just about the talent.'

'The ones who succeed have that grit and determination.'

ERLING HAALAND admitted he is 'living the dream' after his stunning start at Manchester City - and vowed there are more goals to come. The 22-year-old Norwegian turned home Joao Pedro's superb cross to make it 13 goals in nine games with the winner as City beat his former club Borussia Dortmund 2-1 on Wednesday. He said: 'It was a special match for me, emotional, but I had to focus. It was a really good cross and a really good goal. I'm living the dream and I am happy. More to come!'

PGA Tour out to 'destroy us' so no chance of talks, says Greg

GOLF

GREG NORMAN has accused the PGA Tour of 'trying to destroy' the controversial rebel LIV Golf circuit and says he is no longer prepared to hold compromise talks.

'This notion we're trying to destroy tours is not true,' said Norman, chief executive of the Saudi-backed breakaway which has attracted the likes of Cameron Smith, Dustin Johnson and Bryson DeChambeau. 'The PGA Tour is trying to destroy us, simple as that.'

'The PGA Tour has not had a conversation with myself or any of my investors. We tried awfully hard. We have no interest in [talking] with them because our product is working.'



In with a shout:
Rory McIlroy
carded a four-under 67, a shot behind early leader Matthew Fitzpatrick, after the weather delayed Italian Open first round

Northants thwart Surrey bid to take charge of title

CRICKET

SURREY'S County Championship title ambitions were left frustrated after a century from Saif Zaib helped Northamptonshire earn a draw.

Left-hander Zaib struck 124 as the hosts made 426. That set Surrey 345 in 39 overs but declined to take up the chase as the match headed towards a stalemate, closing on 48 for one.

Although Surrey return to the top of the table as a result, their lead over Hampshire is just eight points with two matches left.



PICTURE: PA



2
Europa Conference wins for West Ham as Manuel Lanzini's penalty and goals by Gianluca Scamacca and Craig Dawson secure a 3-2 victory at Silkeborg.

GROUP A	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
BASAKSEHIR	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
HEARTS	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
RIGA FS	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
FIorentina	2	0	1	1	1	4	1

HEARTS AT THE DOUBLE AS THEY SLAY RIGA FOR FIRST GROUP WIN

EUROPA CONFERENCE GROUP A



EUROPA LEAGUE - GROUP E



SHERIFF 0 MAN UNITED 2

CRISTIANO RONALDO and Jadon Sancho both made their points as Manchester United eased to a 2-0 victory over Sheriff Tiraspol.

Sancho netted with a super finish in 17 minutes, hours after being left out of the England squad.

Ronaldo (left), making just his third start under Eric ten Hag, scored his first of the season, a 39th-minute penalty after Diogo Dalot was carelessly tripped by Patrick Kpozo as United picked up a first Europa League victory.

when Andy Halliday's cross was handled by Vitalijs Jagodinskis in the box.

Ref Aleksandar Stavrev pointed to the spot and Shankland hit a 43rd-minute penalty into the top corner.

Hearts No.1 Gordon then denied Ziga Lipuscek twice in a minute. Ginnelly chose to pass to Shankland with just

Steinbors to beat, but his cross was too strong and Shankland failed to score.

Riga FS boss Viktors Morozs was sent to the stands before Forrest slotted past Steinbors in injury time as Hearts secured a first European group stage win since 2004.

Eu regret: Page 34-35 »

SOPHIA DUNKLEY (left) top-scored with 49 as England beat India by seven wickets in last night's women's T20 international to seal a 2-1 series win. Alice Capsey (38no) hit the winning runs as England, set 123, wrapped it up with ten balls to spare. Sophie Ecclestone took three wickets.

Worcester deny administration claim

RUGBY UNION

CRISIS club Worcester denied they are in administration after a government department suggested otherwise.

The Premiership side, with debts of more than £25million, are waiting for an agreement with an undisclosed buyer to be signed as they look to secure their survival.

A club statement read: 'Worcester are aware of a letter from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport claiming the owners have put the club into administration. This is NOT true. The statement was sent out in error.'

39 Age of former England goalkeeper Ben Foster, who is retiring. Foster revealed he rejected a move to Newcastle last week, choosing to quit instead

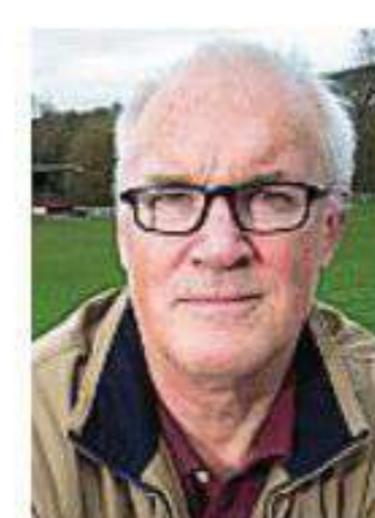
Icon Butler dies at 65 on charity trek

RUGBY UNION

FORMER Wales captain and rugby commentator Eddie Butler has died aged 65, the BBC has announced.

The 16-cap forward died in his sleep on a charity trek on the Inca Trail in Peru.

Butler (pictured) became a hugely respected broadcaster. Brian Moore, often pundit alongside commentator Butler, said: 'Sport has lost an iconic voice, I have lost a very dear friend.'



Colin Murray



Sorry Todd, I love US sport but this is lost in translation

AT A time when so many people need a laugh, thank you Todd Boehly for providing it.

The new Chelsea owner, fresh from spending a record amount in one transfer window before immediately biffing his manager, has stepped in the proverbial with both sneakers.

If there is one thing you should never do, it's tell a British sport that it should be more American.

It's like telling Coronation Street it should be more like Dallas, or Dairy Milk that it should be more like Hershey's.

'Ultimately, I hope the Premier League takes a little bit of a lesson from American sports... Why isn't there an All-Star game?'

To be fair, it's not the first time such an idea has been floated but this seemed more of a series of scattergun sentences than a reasonable plan.

The response has been predictably savage, from pundits and fans alike. In the case of the latter, it just feels like another way to fleece even more money from the pockets of so many who can't afford it as it is.

Huge ticket prices, pay-per-view or behind the pay wall, possibly even in another country... there's a long list of reasons to once again say 'enough'.

Boehly says the revenue raised could be used to further support the football pyramid, which is certainly needed, but football has enough dosh swirling about to find a better balance should it genuinely desire to do so.

In terms of the game itself, North versus South was his suggestion, completely ignoring the fact that England has a Midlands. I love that.

The format is something we can have fun with, even just in theory. Europe takes on The Rest Of The World? Lads against dads? What about having Rebekah Vardy and Coleen Rooney select and manage a team each and off we go? Imagine being the fourth official.

In reality, given the already bulging schedule, we would be left with a game that had nothing at stake, with players who either wouldn't want to get hurt because it was the beginning or middle of the season, or couldn't give a toss because it was the end of one.

However, dismissing it because it is American is not a valid reason. That horse bolted long ago. Exhibit A, of course, being the play-offs. Since the dawn of time, sports borrow from others.

Shirt numbers were first formally used in Aussie Rules. I'm



American dream: Boehly

a huge American sports fan, baseball in particular, but I'm afraid the buzz of voting for your all-star players, the home run derby and everything that goes with it, just doesn't translate.

What are we going to do? A crossbar challenge? A bleep test? It's apples and oranges.

Also, we already see more than enough of the best of the best. How many times will Liverpool and Manchester City play each other this season?

How many Champions League fixtures will add a little Groundhog Day to your déjà vu?

They do say there is no such thing as a bad idea, which is clearly nonsense, but I do think that changes to the Community Shield would be something I would be less against.

Money-wise, it already does a lot of good, but on the pitch it's not a match that causes my sporting hairs to stand to attention. With a little bit of reinvention on the pitch, it could actually bring in more money off it.

What if it was a proper curtain-raiser for the entire division? Two players from each Premier League side picked using playground rules by two selected managers? No two players from the same club on the same team. Team-mate against team-mate.

Now, that might be a non-starter, because it would certainly be played at friendly pace and working out who to cheer for would cause fans to pass out, but it would create such a pre-season buzz, and I don't think many would be disappointed to lose what we have now.

Still, I'm sure there's a better proposal out there somewhere if, in fact, one is needed at all.

You see Mr Boehly? It's not just about what you say, but about how you say it.

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